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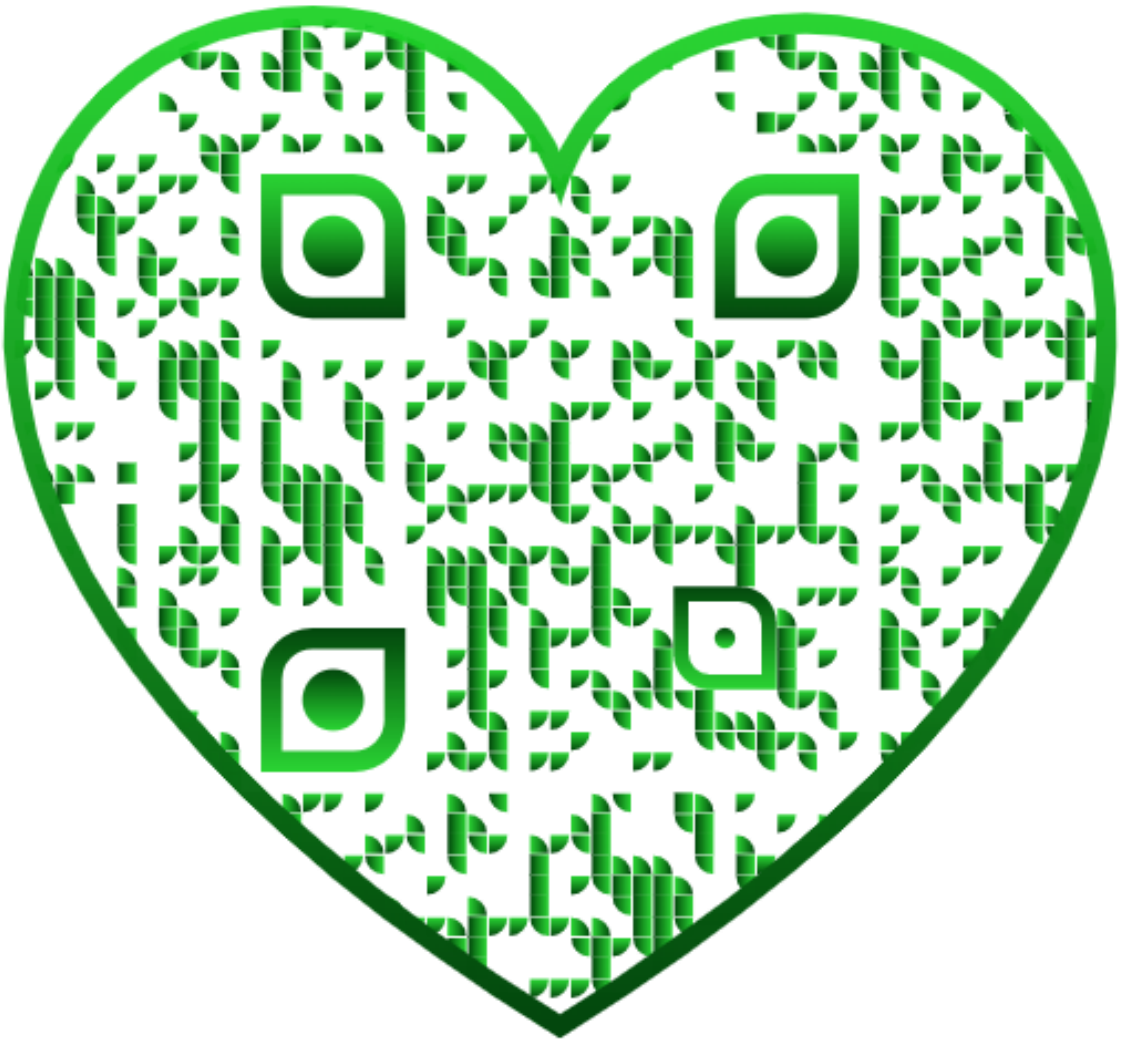

THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM

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FEATURES THE SINGLES ROLLIN' AND TUMBLIN' AND GET HURT

ISSUE NO: 1530 **COVER DATE:** 16/08/14

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NOBODY WANTED TO JOIN TOM AND MARK'S CONGA

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We asked an ex-GN'R member exactly what it's like to buy a Porsche on a whim.

HELLO, READERS. There's been truckloads of brilliant music released so far this year – personal favourites include The Menzingers, Against Me!, Architects, Weezer, The War On Drugs… I could go on… but seriously, next year looks *jaw-dropping*.

Heading up the pack of returning 2015 heroes are Pierce The Veil – a band that command cult-like devotion from you lot. And I can see why. Mark Sutherland caught up with the boys to talk about their new baby, and I don't think it's daft to say that the bar has been raised. Head to p16 to get the world-exclusive scoop.

Then, when you've digested the news, hop over to p22 and get stuck into the other biggest comebacks of next year. But make sure you're sitting down, because some of this stuff is going to blow your mind!

Enjoy the issue!

James
Editor

THIS ISSUE WAS CREATED WITH HELP FROM...

Trying to jam the new Slipknot song directly into our brains to save time listening to it. A mad dash for Foo Fighters tickets. The new Set It Off song making us smile like dickheads. Seeing blink light up Brixton with a huge fiery 'fuck'. Getting our faces melted by Converge, and seeing Frank Turner crowd surf (below). Fish and chips in Brighton with an extra-large helping of Machine Head. All the congrats to Amy Lee on the birth of her baby boy, Jack Lion! And look at Leyton Orient's VERY HEAVY METAL new kit!

COVER PHOTO: ANDREW LIPOVSKY

YOU WANNA KNOW THE WHOLE TRUTH? HOLD ON!

FACING THE FUTURE

AS BEDFORD BOYS DON BROCO RETURN, THE BAND TAKE KERRANG! INSIDE THEIR NEW SINGLE, NEW ALBUM AND NEW OUTLOOK, AS WE HEAD INTO THE STUDIO WITH THEM…

We've heard far too little from Don Broco in recent months, but fear not! Because the boys are back with a killer new single. Having been holed up working on the follow-up to 2012's Priorities for the better part of a year, the quartet are desperate to air new material when they hit Reading & Leeds later this month. But first, the band's as-yet-untitled single will give fans their first taste of the uplifting behemoth they've been working on…

HEY, ROB! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TELL US THE TITLE, BUT WHY DID YOU PICK THIS SONG AS THE FIRST SINGLE?

ROB DAMIANI (*VOCALS*): "Of all the songs we've written [for the new record], this is the one we're most excited to get to play, and we knew we *had to* play it at Reading & Leeds! The first time people will get to hear it will be in that live environment, which is pretty insane, and very cool."

IS IT A MAJOR REVAMP OF THE DON BROCO SOUND?

"I wouldn't say it's a *massive* change. I think we've grown quite organically, and never said, 'Right, let's throw out the rule book and become a ska band (*laughs*)! In a way, it's the classic Broco sound – it's energetic, you've got the big riffs in there and some heaviness. We're just all having a good time doing it. It's the next step. As a live tune, we know it's going to explode!"

> **"WE LEARNED A *LOT* TOURING PRIORITIES…"**
>
> **Rob Damiani**

WHAT ARE THE LYRICS FOR THE NEW SINGLE ABOUT?

"It's kind of inspired by looking back at what we've achieved over the past few years. Playing the Main Stage at Reading & Leeds last year was basically what we wanted to do when we started this band. That was the end goal. But any band who wants to be successful has to keep moving the goalposts. When you look at it, within the culture we live in, we're almost never satisfied, and I was thinking about that a lot and the lyrics actually came together quite quickly."

AND HOW WAS IT GETTING BACK INTO THE STUDIO?

"It was wicked. You have these ideas, but you never know how they'll sound until you've got the full sound of what you're trying to achieve. The funny thing is, when we went in to do You Wanna Know, we shot a Vine [video] of us setting up the drums, and while we were setting up the drums this time we looked at that video, and it was *exactly* one year ago to the day!"

ANY CLASSIC BROCO-BANTER MOMENTS WHILE YOU WERE RECORDING?

"Being in the studio was actually really hard work, but there was a burger place around the corner with an absolute goddess serving there – even drenched in grease and sweat she still looked amazing! I brought her an Innocent smoothie the next day with my name and number on (*laughs*)! As cheesy as

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR PHOTOS: IAN COLLINS

Rob: 'Spot The Camera' champion 2014

FUTURE...

that is, I thought, 'What have I got to lose?' When I got there, I pussied out a bit and lingered around the corner, like a total creep (*laughs*). She went outside by this van and, as I approached to give her the smoothie, she started making out with her boyfriend against the wall! I guess it wasn't meant to be!"

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE WRITTEN AN ALBUM'S WORTH OF NEW TRACKS?

"*So* good. It's the first time we've written more songs than we've needed to, and to be able to pick and choose from 17 or 18 of them is such a novelty. We've embraced our funkier sound more, the melodic aspect that was always there is stronger, and, in terms of song structures, this time out we took a few more chances and risks, which I think will surprise people."

HAS PLAYING BIGGER VENUES INFLUENCED YOU TO WRITE BIGGER SONGS, THEN?

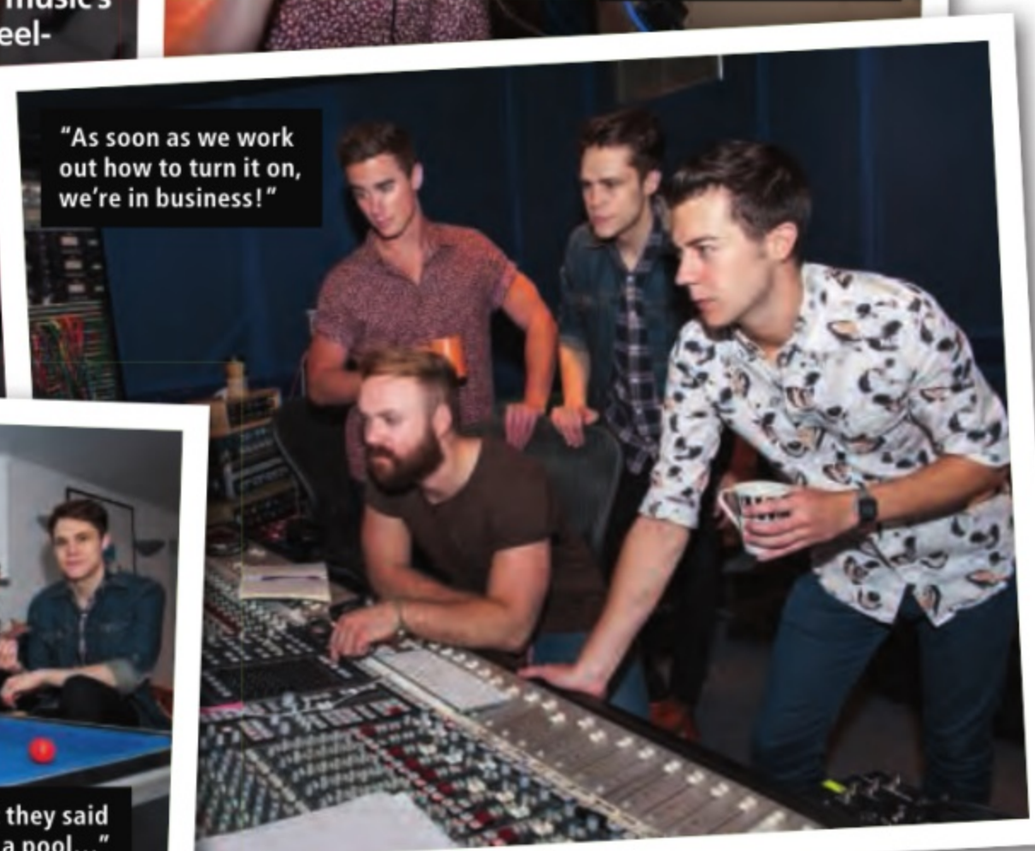
"Yes and no. I think through touring Priorities we learned a *lot* in terms of what works and what doesn't, and we've distilled that and made better music. We didn't exactly decide parts had to sound a certain way for a certain-sized venue, but it definitely sounds bigger than the last album. There are also moments that are much more tender, though."

WHERE ARE YOU COMING FROM THEMATICALLY ON THIS RECORD?

"I always write about what's going on around me. Like Priorities, the majority is still quite centred around personal relationships – the way people interact with each other is still the thing that makes me tick. But, at the same time, I think this new one is much more positive. There are quite a lot of dark and depressing songs on Priorities – a lot of listeners don't realise that, because the music's bouncy and happy. This record's got a feel-good, live-life-to-the-full theme. We feel like that as a band right now. We're going to enjoy this ride and make every single moment count."

DON BROCO PLAY READING & LEEDS THIS MONTH. SEE THE GIG GUIDE FOR MORE INFO

Rob's vocals sounded great from *outside* the soundproof booth



"As soon as we work out how to turn it on, we're in business!"

"I thought they said there'd be a pool..."

ALT-FEST!

WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED?! K! CATCHES UP WITH THE DEFILED AS THEY SPILL THEIR GUTS ON ALT-FEST'S CANCELLATION…

WHY HAS Marilyn Manson got his head in his hands? Well, maybe he just got the news that Alt-Fest has been cancelled. I mean, who wasn't excited about the prospect of watching the likes of Mr Manson, The Defiled, The Cult and loads more?!

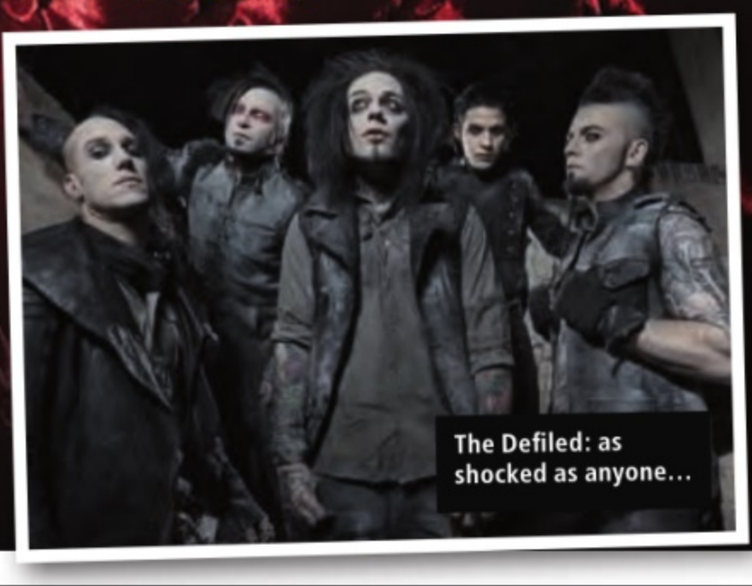
We spoke to Stitch D, frontman of The Defiled, to get his take on the festival's crushing cancellation.

"It's kinda shitty, because I booked a nonrefundable flight [from his home in LA] already!" he explains. "Lots of fans are in the same position. The amount of money the festival must have lost is insane – they booked some really big bands. If they'd managed to pull it off, it would have been awesome."

The Defiled have chosen to make the best of a bad situation by announcing a replacement show with My Ruin at The Zombie Hut in Corby, just down the road from Alt-Fest's planned home in Kettering, on August 15 – the same day that they should've hit the stage at the ill-fated festival.

Alt-Fest released an official statement stating that the festival "ran out of time to raise all the required funds that were needed upfront of the festival". K! approached Alt-Fest organiser Dominic Void for comment, but did not receive a response.

THE DEFILED PLAY CORBY ON AUGUST 15. SEE THE GIG GUIDE



The Defiled: as shocked as anyone…

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LET'S GET QUINN-TIMATE!

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS UNVEIL TINY LONDON SHOW...

HANDS UP who wants to get up close and personal with Sleeping With Sirens frontman Kellin Quinn?

Well, you're in luck, as Kerrang! can exclusively reveal that the band will be playing a tiny show at London's Camden Underworld.

"I'm very excited!" gushes Kellin. "I've heard The Underworld's a really small venue and very intimate – I love playing those shows! I like not having that much distance between me and the fans; I like them to be right there in front of me."

The show, on August 21, sees the band – who have previously headlined London's O2 Academy Brixton – hit the tiny stage ahead of their Main Stage Reading & Leeds performances.

"I really want everyone packed in real close," Kellin continues. "I'm really looking forward to it. It'll be a good way to kick off that little run of shows."

As for the band's plans to drop a tune from their upcoming album at the show, Kellin remains evasive: "You never know, man, we might just decide to throw one out...!"

Pick up next week's issue of Kerrang! for the inside scoop on the band's new album.

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS PLAY LONDON AND READING & LEEDS. SEE THE GIG GUIDE

PARAMORE

THE LOST INTERVIEW!

IN APRIL OF LAST YEAR, K! EDITOR JAMES MCMAHON CHATTED TO PARAMORE. MUCH OF THE INTERVIEW WAS LOST… UNTIL NOW!

SO, THE other day we decided to tidy up the K! office. As we were digging through heaps of old issues, empty bottles and CDs, we stumbled across a dusty old Dictaphone. It turns out that on it was an interview with Paramore in Texas from April 2013. We decided it was too good to be lost to the mists of time. So, here it is… the lost Paramore interview!

ON GROWING UP (OR NOT)…

HAYLEY WILLIAMS (*VOCALS*): "I feel like you grow up and, at a certain point, you see the world a certain way, and then, two days later, you could wake up and feel like an entirely different person. Your eyes can be opened to new things every single day. I don't feel like a kid anymore – I don't think any of us [in the band] do – but even in this band, from Brand New Eyes [2009] to this record, I feel like we are more honest with ourselves.

"At one point you're a child looking at the world as a big, pure, wonderful place, and then you grow up and you realise it's not that. The choice every morning is whether or not you give in to that feeling, or whether you let it go and live your own life anyway.

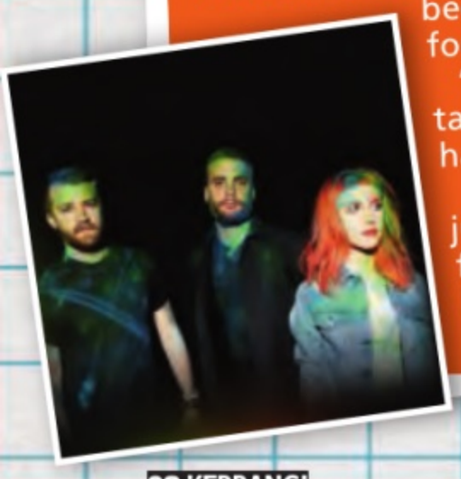
"There are things in life that matter, and things that don't. Just because I'm saying that we've grown up, it doesn't mean we don't still waste our time on stupid things!"

ON SCORING A NUMBER ONE ALBUM…

JEREMY DAVIS (*BASS*): "It's been cool [getting a Number One record], because a lot of cooler bands want to hang out with us and like talking with us! I mean, if you're in a band and you're playing big shows or festivals, and you're all backstage, your favourite bands ever are often there – they've been walking past you for years.

"Now they're finally talking to you and having a conversation!

"I feel like it's cool to just get that support from bands that we have admired for a long time."



ON WORKING HARD…

HAYLEY: "[Before our self-titled album] we took so much time off that it got uncomfortable. It was like, 'This isn't right, you know – I'm supposed to be working hard right now.' I wondered if, at the end of all this time off, our fans might feel like we didn't care about them because we tried to take care of ourselves for a minute.

"I guess, at first, the thought of taking all that time off felt really selfish, and then I realised how much I needed it and how much the guys needed it, too.

"There were days I was scared of doing nothing and I felt I hated being home – I couldn't stay at my house, I had to stay at my mom's. Then I lived with my grandparents. I was trying to be all over the place and feel the 'normality' of being on the road. I did get used to being home, though. And I enjoyed it, but there's nothing like [being on the road]."

ON GETTING OUT OF YOUR HOMETOWN...

HAYLEY: "[When I was at home before we made the new record], I felt like, 'Here I am, I'm living in a town that I grew up in, and yet I feel like a stranger to everyone, and what's even weirder is that everyone thinks they know me!"

"I felt so alone and so stranded in this place, and there were memories on every street corner. It was hard to see the way out."

"I kept asking, 'Who am I going to be? What happens if this doesn't work at all? Then who am I going to be? Who am I without it?' And, at the time, I'd just lost two friends. 'What if I'm all alone at the end of this?'

"I was trying to constantly put myself in a moment that wasn't real in my head – that way I could get through until we could make this record. All I could think of was, 'How am I going to get out of Nashville?'

"Because, for me, at that time, Nashville felt like quicksand. It was eating me alive and I felt… I don't know, just for like a two- or three-month period it felt really hopeless, and I didn't know exactly what it was that I wanted. Deep down, I just wanted something different. It was like that moment in West Side Story. "Something's coming, I don't know what it is, but it's going to be great!"

ON TWITTER...

HAYLEY: "The guys are not into Twitter as much as me (*laughs*), which always makes me feel super-nerdy!

"There were spurts of two-week periods [during the making of the last album] where we really wouldn't tweet anything and it did feel weird, 'cause I feel that's a part of the job, you know?

"We were all really honest with our fans about everything. If we didn't want to say anything online, we didn't.

"I didn't blog for the longest time, for months, and that is so weird for me because normally I really love to do that. We were just kind of going through our own things…"

ON BEING STRUCK BY LIGHTNING...

JEREMY: "I had lightning strike [my house], so, basically, I lost anything electronic. Anything that turned on or off stopped working for about a month and a half.

"I came home and it was, like, one thing after the other. I was trying to turn things on and was like, 'Not the TV!' (*pretends to cry*). I had literally nothing, I was alone and was like, 'What am I going to do?'

"I'm constantly around people – I do not know how to be by myself and I hated my own company.

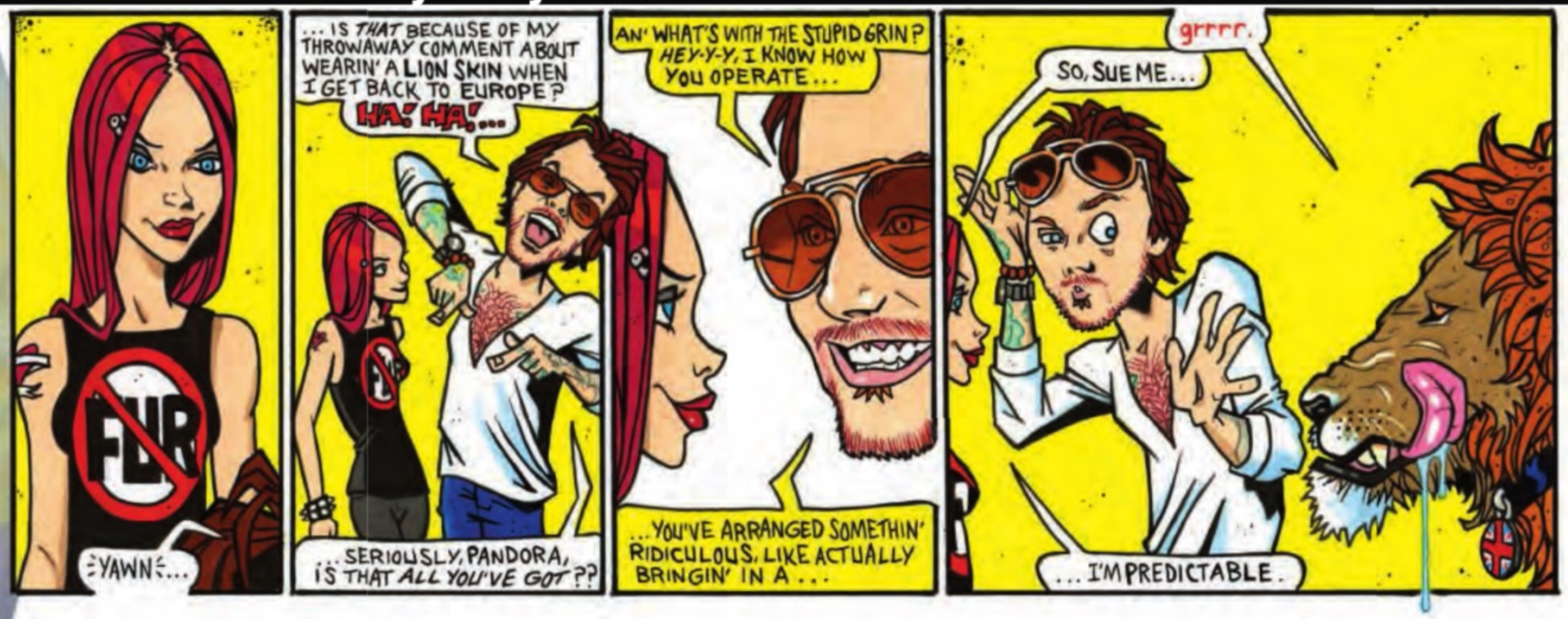
"But I learned that, when I would have friends come over and have conversations, I realised how much you miss if there's a distraction going on all around you.

"It made me think a lot deeper about everything, like, why am I not saying 'Hey' to the guy at the gas station? It's an opportunity for me to have a connection with somebody. My life was too busy so I just paid attention to me and what was going on, and I really think that it helped me – the lightning flip-flopped my world!

"So, I learned the important stuff, like hanging out with yourself and not missing opportunities to speak to people…"

Paramore in 2013

PANDORA by Ray Zell Rayzell.com



INTRODUCING

ROCK'S BREAKING BANDS BY JENNYFER J. WALKER

CITIZEN

STOP AND SMELL THE GERBERAS! THESE OHIO EMO TYPES ARE IN FULL BLOOM...

SO, WHO ARE THIS BUNCH, THEN?
The delicate flowers among the flowers are Toledo, Ohio-based grungers Citizen. "Flowers are our thing," says frontman Mat Kerekes, but don't expect soppy romance. Their debut full-length album, Youth, features some of the most brutally emotional break-up songs you'll ever hear. "The general tone of the band is kinda melancholy," says Mat, launching his bid to win Understatement Of The Millennium.

IT'S IN THE BAG! SO, WHY SO SAD?
Because Mat broke up with his childhood sweetheart in summer 2012, hence the awesomely emo song The Summer that's available for free at Kerrang.com. Unlike other summer anthems, it doesn't mention beaches or fun in the sun, instead lamenting: *'Why'd you wait for the summer to chew and spit me out?'* "The break-up fucked me up," confesses Mat. "I was doing weird things. I was obsessed with not sleeping and driving. I'd sit in my room all day being antisocial, and every night I'd drive to Detroit and back to Toledo."

BLIMEY. STILL, GOOD PREPARATION FOR LIFE ON THE ROAD, RIGHT?
No doubt. And Citizen have toured relentlessly since forming in high school in 2009. They started off as pop-punks, before putting out the Young States EP in 2012 and

"WE'D LOVE TO BE AS POWERFUL AS TOY STORY"

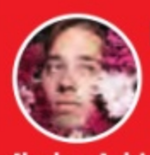
really hitting their stride on Youth, released in the U.S. last year. They were too young/straight-edge to drink during stints on the road with Warped Tour, The Wonder Years or The Story So Far, but found other ways to blow off steam. "We were on the [John W. Weeks] bridge in Boston when this dude started taking off his clothes," laughs Mat. "He just dove in [the water] and we were like, 'What the fuck?' But then we started taking our shirts off and were like, 'Let's do it!' I hope it's going to be a thing every time we go there..." (NB: do not try this at home. Or even in Boston).

SO, WHAT ELSE MAKES MAT HAPPY?
His dogs, Rex and Slinky, named after characters in his favourite movie, Toy Story. Although Toy Story itself makes him cry. "The end of Toy Story 3, when Andy's playing with the toys for the last time – that was game over for me," he blubs. "The power of Toy Story is awesome." So, would he like Citizen's songs to have the same effect? "Sure," he says. "If a song can make you feel something, I'd like to be the one to make you feel it." Get set for some heavy petal thunder...

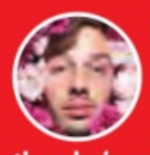
HEAR THEM NOW ON KERRANG.COM

MEET THE BAND!

MAT GIVES US THE LOWDOWN ON HIS BUDS IN THE BAND... BUDS... GEDDIT?!



NICK HAMM (*GUITAR*): "Nick loves Kanye West with all of his heart. And he argues with Eric [below], his brother, all the time. Once, he chased Eric with a knife!"



ERIC HAMM (*BASS*): "Eric is the dad of the band. He's very laid-back and pretty shy – unless he gets drunk, and then he's not shy in the slightest bit!"

JAKE DUHAIME (*DRUMS*): "Jake only joined this year. He knows a lot about random shit... he'd be the guy I'd call on Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?, for sure."

RYLAND OEHLERS (*GUITAR*): "Ryland is the comedian of the band. He says and does funny things all the time, and he's very good at mimicking voices. I don't talk much when we're sitting in the van – I just listen to Ryland and get a good laugh."

WORDS: MARK SUTHERLAND PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

KILIMANJARO, LIVE NATION, TRIPLE G & THE FLEECE IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE AGENCY GROUP PRESENT

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Motionless In White

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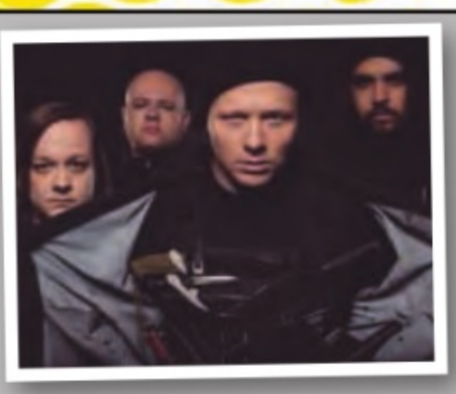
"REINCARNATE"
OUT SEPTEMBER 15
ON FEARLESS RECORDS

THE OFFICIAL KERRANG! ROCK CHART

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST SONGS IN ROCK THIS WEEK? LET'S CONSULT THE OFFICIAL CHART...

No.	WEEKS ON CHART	HIGHEST POSITION	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	3	1	TWIN ATLANTIC	Brothers And Sisters	RED BULL RECORDS
2	8	1	LOWER THAN ATLANTIS	Here We Go	SONY
3	2	3	YOU ME AT SIX	Room To Breathe	BMG
4	3	3	MALLORY KNOX	Ghost In The Mirror	SONY
5	4	5	LONELY THE BRAVE	Backroads	HASSLE
6	1	6	KING 810	Fat Around The Heart	ROADRUNNER
7	2	7	MASTODON	High Road	REPRISE
8	12	2	ROYAL BLOOD	Come On Over	WARNER BROS.
9	7	1	LINKIN PARK	Until It's Gone	WARNER BROS.
10	4	4	THEORY OF A DEADMAN	Drown	ROADRUNNER
11	5	5	MARMOZETS	Captivate You	ROADRUNNER
12	1	12	ARCHITECTS	Gravedigger	EPITAPH
13	14	3	DEAF HAVANA	22	BMG
14	6	11	VOLBEAT	Cape Of Our Hero	UNIVERSAL MUSIC
15	6	4	SKINDRED	The Kids Are Right Now	DOUBLECROSS
16	15	1	YOU ME AT SIX	Cold Night	BMG
17	9	11	BEARTOOTH	Beaten In Lips	RED BULL RECORDS
18	29	3	A DAY TO REMEMBER	Right Back At It Again	ADTR RECORDS
19	4	9	DRAGONFORCE	The Game	ELECTRIC GEN...
20	1	20	FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS	Neon In The Dance Halls	GOREMOUNT

BROTHERS AND SISTERS
TWIN ATLANTIC
Are you an only child? Then this track will completely alienate you. Stick your fingers in your ears and stop listening right now. Mummy, get us some ice cream!!



FAT AROUND THE HEART
KING 810
It's the Michigan mob with a new entry this week! Whoever thought a track about high cholesterol could be so damn good? That's definitely what it's about, by the way.

GRAVEDIGGER
ARCHITECTS
Ever wondered how frontman Sam Carter achieves those chiselled shoulders? It's nothing to do with his vegan diet; he's actually a gravedigger on weekends.

NEON IN THE DANCE HALLS
FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS
We all know vampires don't like garlic and sunlight, but the title of this song suggests another great deterrent is glowsticks. We'll take 50 packets, please!

SEE/HEAR THE OFFICIAL KERRANG! ROCK CHART!

The Official Kerrang! Rock Chart is made up of airplay across Kerrang! Radio, Kerrang! TV and specialist rock stations. The show airs every Thursday at 5pm and every Saturday at 6pm. Tune in and listen up!

KERRANG! TV

KERRANG! RADIO

CHART ATTACK!

IN 5... 4... 3... 2... 1...

READERS' CHART

BY OLLY HUNTER, LONDON

1 NO DEVOTION, STAY
"After seeing this track live, it finally made sense. An anthem to mark the resurrection of some fine songwriters!"

2 SHRINE, SAY YOU WILL
"My favourite new band. With a sound somewhere between Thrice and Mastodon, Say You Will is the haunting highlight of their EP, Closer To The Sun."

3 CRIME IN STEREO, EXIT HALO
"In preparation for their anticipated return at Hevy, I've had this in my ears all week. Criminally underrated!"

4 MARMOZETS, CAPTIVATE YOU
"An incredibly catchy chorus and Becca Macintyre's entrancing vocals have me hooked."

5 FOUR YEAR STRONG, GO DOWN IN HISTORY
"A massive return to form for Four Year Strong! They're embracing the fun sound that made me fall in love with them all those years ago."

ROCKSTAR CHART

BY STEVEN BATTELLE, LOSTALONE

1 IRON MAIDEN, MOONCHILD
"If this doesn't get you going in the morning, nothing will. Bruce's wail on this is an ideal alarm clock."

2 DAVID BOWIE, EIGHT LINE POEM
"David Bowie is so versatile! He can write songs that sound nothing like each other, but they always sound like him."

3 GHOST TWINS, 2006
"They're a new band from Derby. If you like Nine Inch Nails, then definitely check them out."

4 LYKKE LI, SADNESS IS A BLESSING
"Lykke Li is a Swedish singer-songwriter, and she's such a great singer *and* songwriter!"

5 BELINDA CARLISLE, HEAVEN IS A PLACE ON EARTH
"This is a classic song! Even if you don't like pop, if your favourite rock band came in with this and added some bigger riffs, it'd be huge!"

WORDS: PAUL TRAVERS

RANDOM CHART

THIS WEEK: SONGS ABOUT CHEMICALS AND STUFF!

1 METALLICA, CYANIDE
Nothing to do with Cyanide really, just a track inspired by The Cult. Thanks, The Cult!

2 AFI, SILVER AND COLD
Davey Havok wants to paint someone silver and wrap 'em in cold. How about a Snuggie, Dav?

3 YOU ME AT SIX, CONTAGIOUS CHEMISTRY
Better wear a medical mask if you plan on hanging out with the Surrey rockers.

4 EVANESCENCE, LITHIUM
Stop stealing song titles from Nirvana, Amy Lee! That's a D- on your science report!

5 AVENGED SEVENFOLD, ACID RAIN
We'd say bring an umbrella, but unless you've got a stainless steel one, it's not going to help.

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24.09.14 Middlesbrough – Empire
25.09.14 Manchester – Deaf Institute
26.09.14 Stoke – Sugarmill
27.09.14 Birmingham – Institute
30.09.14 Brighton – The Haunt
01.10.14 Southampton – Joiners (sold out!)
02.10.14 Plymouth – White Rabbit
03.10.14 Bridgend – Hobo's (sold out!)
04.10.14 Bristol – The Thekla
07.10.14 Leeds – Brundenell
08.10.14 Nottingham – Rescue Rooms
09.10.14 Colchester – Arts Centre
10.10.14 Norwich – Waterfront
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06.12.14 London – The Forum (Extra London Show!), co-headline with Epica
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FEEDBACK

NONE MORE POST-SACK

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LETTER OF THE WEEK

HEY K!, I loved the interview with Asking Alexandria in last week's issue [K!1529]. But I was a little bit saddened to see that Danny Worsnop from Asking Alexandria is looking forward to wearing fur when he comes back to Europe, and saying that he'd wear a lion with the head still attached. Animals aren't fashion – they're living creatures and deserve as much respect as a human. Even if Danny was joking, the fur industry is no laughing matter. Thousands of animals are killed every year just so a few idiots can think they look good. Danny, I love your band, but knock the fur on the head.

LAURA, WINCHESTER

Laura, you're not the only one who's had something to say about Danny's comments about wearing fur. It's a controversial issue but, equally, it's worth remembering that bands as diverse as Linkin Park, Architects and Mötley Crüe support animal rights campaigns. Rockstars have a platform to speak out on all manner of issues, and we applaud any of them that take a stand. We're pretty sure Danny was joking about the lion's head, though…

WIN! 5 ALBUMS OF YOUR CHOICE!

LAURA, YOUR LETTER HAS WON YOU FIVE ALBUMS OF YOUR CHOICE FROM THIS WEEK'S ISSUE. TO CLAIM THEM, EMAIL US AT THE USUAL ADDRESS WITH YOUR PICKS!

ROCK AGAINST DEPRESSION

TWO WEEKS AGO, WE RAN OUR ROCK AGAINST DEPRESSION FEATURE, AND YOUR LETTERS HAVE BEEN OVERWHELMING. STAY STRONG, AND KEEP THEM COMING!

YOU'RE NOT ALONE

HI K!, I've been reading your Rock Against Depression article, and to say it's inspiring is an understatement. I've been a sufferer of depression since last year, and it's very hard. It sucks, because a lot of people don't understand it. To know that some of my heroes are also suffering from it makes me realise even more that I'm not alone after all.

NICK, VIA EMAIL

IT'S THE REAL THING

HELLO K!, I think the Rock Against Depression piece was an amazing article and it made me feel pretty good. I've suffered from suicidal thoughts, and people in my family and several of my friends have been diagnosed with depression. If you tell somebody you have a physical illness, they understand, but mental illnesses are harder for people to grasp. I think that it is important that people realise that depression is a real condition, and this article has raised some awareness of that. The advice to talk to someone and take care of yourself is great, and I know that from experience. Thanks for the great article!

ELEANOR, VIA EMAIL

HELP FROM HEROES

HI KERRANG!, I read the Rock Against Depression feature and I found it so inspiring. Knowing that people like Pete Wentz, Jenna McDougall and Danny Worsnop have struggled like many Kerrang! readers will really encourage people to talk about it to someone. I've been diagnosed with severe depression and social anxiety, and I found it really interesting to hear other people's opinions on it and their coping strategies, especially from some of my heroes.

KATIE, VIA EMAIL

IF YOU'VE BEEN AFFECTED BY ANY OF THE ISSUES DISCUSSED HERE, SEE YOUNGMINDS.ORG.UK

GO DEVOTION!

HI KERRANG!, I just wanted to say how much I enjoyed last week's No Devotion interview [K!1529]. It's so good to see the guys finally be able to put the past behind them, and, judging by their new single, I can't wait for their full album!

HARRY, HAMPSHIRE

Here here, Harry. We can't wait for the album, either. Can we just bring Christmas forward to next weekend, then call it 2015 already?

LOSING YOUR SHIT!

HI K!, after going to NASS festival a couple of weeks back, I realised I'd lost a load of stuff (including ONE shoe!). I got a wet foot on the way home!

GEMMA, BRIDLINGTON

Somerset to East Yorkshire is a hell of a long way to hop home, Gemma. You might want to Google 'trains' in the future…

HEAVY METAL PET OF THE WEEK!

HI K!, my horse, Harvey, thought I said I was reading 'Karrot! Magazine'… He said his rock hero was definitely Gerard Hay, I mean Way!

SARCASTICPONY, VIA EMAIL

Harvey looks like a very healthy steed – no sign of hoarse-ness. Although, we had a word with him, and he said his favourite band are Neigh-palm Death… [You're fired – K! Jokes Ed].

tweets of the week

Because rockstars are obsessed with Twitter, too...

@JackAllTimeLow
Jack Barakat, All Time Low
"The little kid sitting behind me on the plane is throwing up! What a loser."

@joshmeatsix
Josh Franceschi, You Me At Six
"Spending the day with my grandmother, the ultimate life lesson."

@deathoftheparty
Keith Buckley, Every Time I Die
"Yes I realise that the sign in the bathroom of your tour bus says "#1 only", but poop is number 1 in my book."

reader tweet

@caitreeve
"If @KerrangMagazine publish any more great posters, I'm going to have to start putting them up around the house; my bedroom walls are covered!"

THE GALLERY

WE WERE DRAWN FOR THIS

HEY KERRANG!, I read your Monumentour feature recently [K!1526], and I wanted to show you my drawing of Hayley Williams. I really hope that you can put it in The Gallery!

ASHLEY, VIA EMAIL

21ST CENTURY BREAKDRAWN!

HI KERRANG!, this is my latest drawing of the lovely Billie Joe Armstrong and the ever-insane Tré Cool! Green Day have inspired me so much – I love them!

MEGAN, VIA EMAIL

Win! READING & LEEDS FESTIVAL TICKETS!

NOT GOT your Reading & Leeds tickets yet? Well, fear not – we've got a pair to give away! So, instead of spending Bank Holiday weekend eating crisps and trying to watch all the James Bond movies back to back, you could be in a field watching Paramore, Of Mice & Men and a metric shitload (or a fuck-ton, if you're using imperial measurements) of other killer bands! And we're not even making it that hard to win. Just fire up your computer and go to Winit.Kerrang.com, and before you know it you'll be in a tent wondering where you put the loo roll. What could be better?

READING LEEDS 2014

CAKE KNIVES AND PENS

HI KERRANG!, my amazing mum made me this Black Veil Brides birthday cake. It was totally out of this world, and she nearly died when I showed her the plan, as she didn't know where to get the icing. I didn't want to eat Andy Biersack first, 'cause it would be a crime to eat the one you love first! But he was in the middle, so that was a bonus.

HANNAH, VIA EMAIL

That, Hannah, is a killer cake. We've often wondered who the tastiest member of Black Veil Brides would be. Jury still out.

IS THIS YOU?

WIN! ANY ALBUM REVIEWED THIS WEEK!

BLINK-182, O2 ACADEMY BRIXTON, LONDON. 06.08.14

IS THIS you having a whale of a time at The Rock Show? If so, then you've won any album reviewed this week, you lucky blighter! To claim your album (please state your preference), send your name, address, a recent pic of yourself, and the gig ticket (both will be returned) to the address at the top of this page!

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

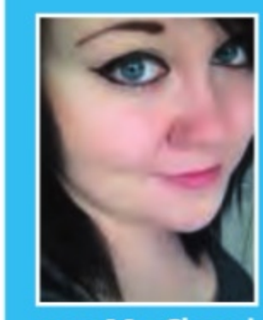
ROCK RUCK!

WHERE YOU AND A ROCKSTAR DUKE IT OUT OVER THE WEEK'S BURNING QUESTION...

INTIMATE SHOWS OR ARENA SPECTACULARS?

DAN O'CONNOR, FOUR YEAR STRONG

"Intimate shows are brilliant things. There's something to be said for playing bigger venues, and getting the energy of that many people behind you is amazing, but I love playing smaller shows. Sometimes the size of the stage can hinder you putting on your 'best' show, but the energy and closeness you have with the crowd more than compensates for that. Yeah, if it's a bigger band and lots of people want to see them, some may get excluded by the cap on tickets, but I think the pros definitely outweigh the cons."



SARAH, K! READER

"Intimate gigs are the best! They're so much better than a large-scale concert. I saw My Chemical Romance at an intimate gig, and it has to be the best show I've ever been to. Yeah, the audience were louder than the band itself and you were lucky if you got a clear couple of seconds where you could hear them properly, but it showed the connection between the band and the fans. It was a phenomenal night, and I'll never forget it."

KERRANG! SAYS: We've always enjoyed the special feel of an intimate show, but there's no prouder feeling than seeing a band you love conquer a stadium for the first time.

GOT AN OPINION? EMAIL US AT FEEDBACK@KERRANG.COM

PIERCE THE VEIL

Vic regretted joking that the pizza had arrived: (*from left*) Tony Perry, Mike Fuentes, Jaime Preciado and Vic Fuentes

INSIDE THE HOTTEST RECORD OF 2013

THEY'RE THE NAME ON EVERY ROCK FAN'S LIPS. AND SOON ENOUGH, PIERCE THE VEIL'S NEW ALBUM WILL BE IN OUR HANDS. BUT REACHING THIS POINT HAS BEEN FAR FROM AN EASY RIDE...

WORDS: MARK SUTHERLAND PHOTOS: ANDREW LIPOVSKY

Big Bear in California is usually a tranquil place.

By day in peak season, hundreds of snowboarders pull gnarly aerials on the resort's slopes, but, as the sun descends, so does the hush. On a clear night, you might see the bright lights of Los Angeles twinkling in the distance, but most eyes are drawn to the glittering lake below, or upwards to the summits of Bear Peak, Silver Mountain and Goldmine Mountain.

But what most people really notice – just 100 miles away from the constant noise, stress and information overload of Hollywood's clanking dream factory – is the exquisite sound of silence.

Not tonight, however. Tonight, an unholy din is emanating from one of the cabins nestled high up in the mountains. A racket is blasting out of some speakers at maximum volume, but it's not the music that's really disturbing those that hear it echoing around the calm slopes. It's the laughter.

And if anyone had dared to tiptoe up to the

PIERCE THE VEIL

windows of that cabin on that dark night and taken a peek inside, what horrors would they have seen inside?

"Just me," laughs Vic Fuentes. "By myself, drinking whisky, dancing around, feeling really good about the music we were making, and just being a drunk asshole."

It may not sound like it, but this is an extremely good omen for Pierce The Veil's forthcoming fourth album. Vic, you see, has been here before. He wrote the new album's predecessor, 2012's breakthrough Collide With The Sky, here in these mountains, and he's long since learned to read the signs when he comes up with a song to save someone's life.

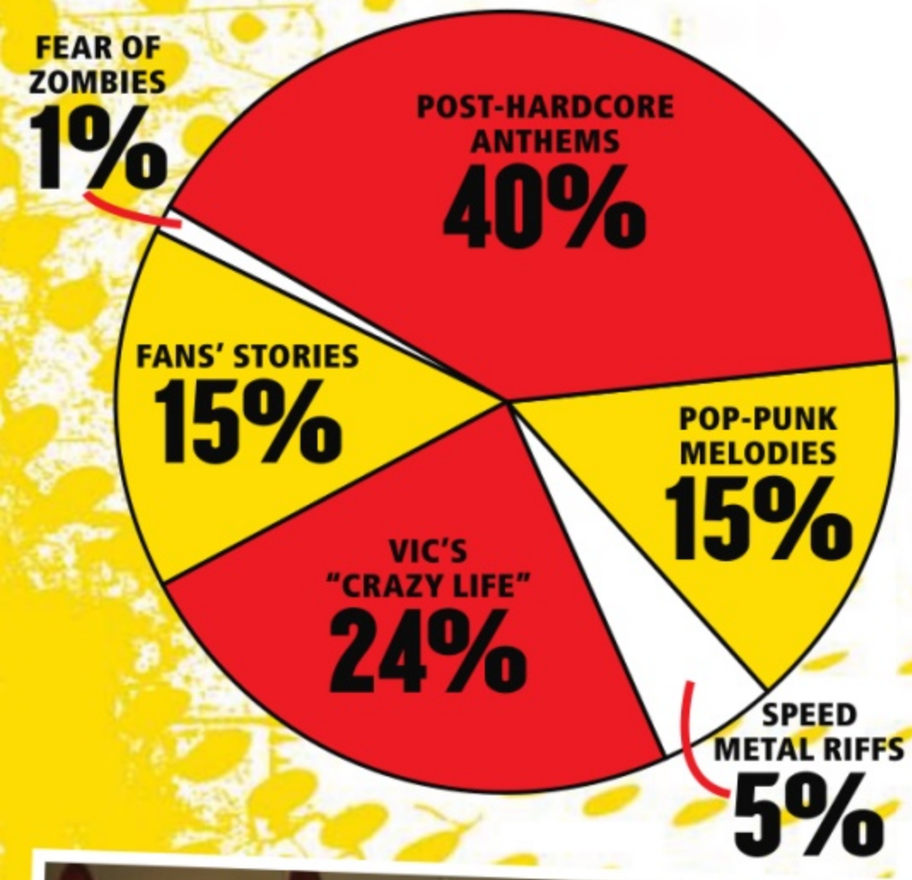
"Anything that makes you want to dance or destroy something is good," he grins. "One of the two and I'm happy."

Thousands of feet below, the world is waiting expectantly for Pierce The Veil's next album. But in order to give it to them, it turns out these weren't the only mountains Vic had to climb…

Rewind a few months and several thousand miles, and Vic Fuentes is not in the mood – or the physical state – for dancing. Pierce The Veil's mammoth two-year world tour in support of Collide With The Sky has finally concluded after some UK and European shows, and the band is heading back to its native San Diego in what Vic calls a "dilapidated" condition.

#PTV4 THE INGREDIENTS!

WHAT GOES INTO THE MAKING OF A FUTURE CLASSIC ALBUM?



PTV congratulate themselves on another fine day's work. The show-offs…

"WE'D BEEN TOURING SO HARD. IT WAS FUN, BUT BY THE END WE WERE A WRECK"

VIC FUENTES

Both Vic and his bandmate, bassist Jaime Preciado, have suffered foot injuries along the way. Jaime broke a bone and Vic tore his ligaments, meaning they are literally, as well as figuratively, limping back home for the holidays.

"We'd been touring so hard," grimaces Vic. "It was fun, but by the end we were a wreck."

Despite the injuries, PTV completed all their touring obligations with smiles on their faces. After all, it was their willingness to remain on the road when others would have dropped that had helped propel Collide With The Sky to new heights. For two years, they never returned home for more than a few days in a row as, throughout their headline tours, the stints on the U.S. Warped Tour, the co-headlines with All Time Low and the support slots with Bring Me The Horizon and A Day To Remember, they found songs such as Bulls In The Bronx and the Kellin Quinn-featuring King For A Day connecting with people like nothing they'd ever done before.

Collide With The Sky's blend of furious post-hardcore guitars, soaring pop melodies and none-more-emo lyrics had got off to a fast start, debuting at Number 12 on the U.S. album chart in July 2012, selling over 27,000 copies in its first week. But it also stuck around, its sales ticking over as it stayed on the chart for four months, soaring way past 100,000 in number, and picking up new fans all around the world.

In Vic's own words, it "changed everything for our band".

The UK's support proved particularly significant – indeed, when asked to identify the moment he knew PTV's career was really taking off, Vic plumps without hesitation for their deliriously received May 2013 show at KOKO in London.

But, in truth, the countless shows in support of the album were full of such moments, as the band that formed in San Diego in 2007 slowly but surely transformed themselves from underdogs to top dogs. Everywhere they went, the venues got bigger and the numbers of fans that queued to shower them with gifts, show them Vic's lyrics tattooed upon their flesh and tell them their most intimate problems grew and grew. The Cult Of PTV was swelling like nothing seen in U.S. alternative rock since the early days of My Chemical Romance.

But despite the success, many bands have been undone by that explosive cocktail of too much touring, not enough sleep, physical problems and mental stress. Many bands would have returned from Pierce The Veil's travels hating their jobs, their lives and each other.

Pierce The Veil, however, are made of stronger stuff. Their bodies may have been broken and their minds exhausted, but the indelible bond between Vic, Jaime, guitarist Tony Perry and drummer Mike Fuentes (Vic's younger brother) meant that barely a voice was raised in anger between them during those two years spent in close quarters on the road. And their indomitable spirit meant that, after just a couple of weeks to lick their wounds, Pierce The Veil were ready to get right back in the saddle.

"We all just really enjoy what we do," shrugs Jaime, as he ponders why his band survived where so many would have bitten the dust. "We'd much rather be playing in a band with our friends than working in a burger place. A lot of these guys in other bands think they deserve it, when they really don't. We all love what we do, so it's hard to take us away from that, broken foot and all. I'll waddle onstage if I have to…"

So as 2013 melted into 2014, Pierce The Veil rented a house in San Diego, set up their gear and began the "long, crazy process" of writing album number four. Previous PTV records had been written and recorded to tight schedules but, this time, the band decided to leave nothing to chance. So they spent several weeks jamming and working on ideas before decamping to the mountains. Six weeks later, they were asked to leave for being too loud ("Who complained? It must have been the bears!" chortles Vic), so they headed back to San Diego. Riffs were tweaked, song structures polished, ideas tried and abandoned before, finally, it was time for the real work to begin…

"I am completely surrounded by graveyards," laughs Jaime, as he describes the view from his window. "This is basically the place where they keep all the dead people."

It's also the place where all the hard work PTV put into writing will, hopefully, be transformed into a classic album. They're here, on the fringes of an industrial estate in Long Island, New York, with producer Dan Korneff, who also helmed Collide With The Sky, and basically no other living souls. The bears may have complained about the noise up in the mountains, but here, Jaime says, "only the dead people can hear us – and I don't think they mind".

Vic says the area's overall "vibe" is "sketchy", while Jaime – very much the genial spirit of PTV in the way that Vic is its heart – describes the dormitory that the band are sharing on the studio's top floor as "like a spooky orphanage".

"One night, some of the guys were like, 'Let's go for a walk,'" he grins. "But I'm like, 'That sounds like a bad idea.' I don't want to be that funny guy in the horror movie who's dead after 20 minutes…"

Jaime's zombie paranoia aside, the atmosphere doesn't seem to be weighing too heavily upon the album-making process ("There's no goth influence yet," says Vic, wryly). Indeed, the one-time Limping Dead that returned from that world tour are now bouncing with enthusiasm.

They're looking at an early 2015 release, but Vic is still playing his cards pretty close to his chest. There's no name for the album yet, nor any confirmed song titles, while the exact final lyrics are still being tweaked from the jumble of notes, phrases, thoughts and one-liners he's jotted in his journal over the past two years.

Vic says there won't be any radical departures on this album, but he's not leaving many stones unturned in his quest to make the perfect record. So, as well as previous songwriting partners such as Tom Denney (formerly of A Day To Remember) and Curtis Peoples, he's also been working with two bigger names for the first time: Brad Hargreaves of '90s alt.rockers Third Eye Blind ("Probably my favourite band of all time!" enthuses Vic) and Chad Gilbert of New Found Glory.

Vic met the former through a mutual friend, while PTV and NFG have been buddies since touring together on Warped. But this is no old pals act; both collaborators were hand-picked to help PTV explore unchartered territory.

"The differences [between the bands] make for unique things and special moments," Vic grins. "It's always nice to get perspectives from people that come from a different world. But it wasn't like we were trying to write a Third Eye Blind song; we were trying to write a Pierce The Veil song."

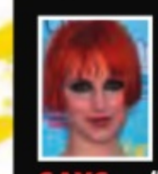
So Jaime dismisses the notion that Chad's presence means PTV might go pop-punk, although he does admit the collaborations will have an impact on the album's overall scope.

"We don't want to just put out another Collide…" he says. "It's like when you're growing up: you want to be bigger, taller, stronger."

Vic's desire to not let go faced its toughest challenge: needing the loo

COLLIDE WITH THE STARS!

COLLABORATIONS HAVE PAID OFF FOR PTV IN THE PAST, BUT WHO'D BE ON THEIR DREAM GUEST LIST GOING FORWARDS?



HAYLEY WILLIAMS

VIC FUENTES SAYS… "I was obsessed with the last Paramore record [2013's self-titled effort]. It was really ground-breaking. Doing a song with Hayley would be really cool. Will I ask Chad to ask her? I wouldn't go that far, but if he could put in a good word…"

AARON GILLESPIE

JAIME PRECIADO SAYS… "Just because I'm a huge Underøath fan [whom Aaron drummed for and sang in]. Aaron's voice is insane. But I know he's doing pretty well – he's the drummer for Paramore right now, so I don't know if he'd be available…"

THRICE

VIC SAYS… "I've been a fan since we were kids; I really love that band. I'd love to do some writing with them and see what their heads are all about. I walked up to Teppei [Teranishi, guitar] when I was 17 and told him they were a big inspiration. He was very surprised!"

FREDDIE MERCURY

JAIME SAYS… "Can we raise him from the dead and get him on a track? I know Vic is 100 per cent inspired by Freddie, so it would be awesome, and it would fit very well. Hey, if Michael Jackson can make a [new] record…"

PIERCE THE VEIL

After Kellin and letlive. frontman Jason Aalon Butler's appearances on Collide With The Sky, the collaborations are unlikely to be limited to just the writing process, either. Vic says reports that Tonight Alive's Jenna McDougall – who regularly sang with PTV on tour in 2012 – features on the record are premature, though a duet certainly sounds on the cards.

"I've always wanted to do something with her," says Vic. "She's such a lovely person and very talented, and our bands get along really well. I'd love to do it."

With Vic also quipping about dropping subtle hints to Chad about getting his girlfriend, Hayley Williams, on the album (see previous panel), those pop-punk theories might just stick around for a while. But, while Jaime admits that making such a hugely anticipated album piles pressure on Vic, he insists the band's main songwriter is more than equal to the task.

"I know people are talking, like, 'How are they going to top [the last] record?'" he says. "But we're not trying to do that. We've got to make songs we're super-stoked about. It's just a bunch of dudes rocking and rolling."

"It takes a lot of commitment," Vic himself admits. "Trying not to go insane in the process is the challenge."

So, the flip side to Vic's dancing in log cabins in the mountains has surfaced on a couple of occasions ("You can't be awesome every day," he shrugs). But, generally, things seem to be shaping up nicely: Vic buzzes about recording the fastest song PTV have ever done ("How fast is it? Fast as hell!") and about the lyrical inspiration he's drawing from the stories his fans tell him. He claims to not be bothered about turning 30 during the last campaign ("I forget how old I am most of the time"), but is in no doubt as to how the success of Collide With The Sky focused his mind on making sure the follow-up is as good as humanly possible.

"We're pushing our minds and bodies to breaking point," he says. "That's how I like to do it. I like to go as far as I can."

The Pierce The Veil Breakfast Club convenes every morning at 10am. Vic, Jaime, Tony and Mike roll out of Sonic Debris Recording Studio in their rented car and go in search of grub. The area of Long Island they're in isn't exactly blessed with high-class eateries, so they usually end up in one of the same four spots. At first, standing out among the blue-collar locals, with their tattoos, funny hats and silly hair, made them worry what people thought of them.

"Like, 'Man, these four guys *really* like to hang out,'" sniggers Vic. "'They meet up all the time to eat together. They must just be the best friends'… which I guess we are!"

Eventually, a waitress in one of their regular spots was revealed as a PTV fan, and now, every time they're in, she spreads the word among her friends who come down for an impromptu meet-and-greet. "I'll never say no to a high-five," grins Jaime.

It's fun, but also a reminder that Pierce The Veil, however much they protest, aren't just making this record for themselves. When they made Collide With The Sky, a group of hardcore fans would pop by the studio occasionally with gifts of cookies. This time, whenever Dan turns on his phone, the producer finds a barrage of voice mails from fans, desperately seeking directions to his not-on-the-map studio.

Outside in the real world, the Cult Of PTV is still growing, and there are thousands of fans waiting for the new album to come along and save their lives all over again.

Vic, however, remains uneasy about taking responsibility for other people's dreams.

"Music definitely saved my life growing up," he says, eventually. "And we hope to make something that they can listen to every day and like and enjoy. That's all we can really ask."

If anything, the music business' expectations are even greater. Up until now, PTV's career curve has been gradually-but-firmly upward, from 2007 debut A Flair For The Dramatic, to 2010's Selfish Machines, to Collide With The Sky. But mention PTV in industry circles right now and the air crackles with talk of how, if they make the "right" record, it'll turn them into one of the biggest rock groups on the planet.

"I don't want to be the biggest rock band tomorrow," protests Jaime. "I want to earn it. We've been a slow roller; every year has been a little bit better than the last. And I like that – it makes it so much more worthwhile."

Nonetheless, there's no doubt that, deep down, Pierce The Veil know what's at stake on this album. When they sang about being King For A Day on Collide With The Sky, it was a pipe dream. This time, becoming rock royalty is a very real possibility. Last time, they were thrilled and surprised when they got to tour around the world. This time, international dates are already pencilled in as part of a promotional trail that's got their lives mapped out for the best part of another two years.

The only doubt that remains is whether Pierce The Veil are just too damn nice to make it to the top. Outside of the mountain bear community, their rep as the nicest guys in post-hardcore precedes them, and they're always ready to give their support bands a leg-up or hang out in order to create a slightly lame 'This one time, we had a couple of beers'-type anecdote.

"We've seen a lot of bands being complete dicks," seethes Vic, vowing that success will never turn his head away from PTV's ethos of scene solidarity. "We've seen some stuff and heard some stuff… I can't even describe how angry it made me."

But do they really have what it takes to cope if they hit the real big time?

"We'll do just fine," insists Vic, groping for the right words to dismiss the idea that PTV's slow-burn route to the top means they somehow lack ambition.

"Look, we were touring in a van," he decides, eventually. "Then we started touring in an RV. Then we moved up to a bus. And Jaime's getting his pilot's licence right now, so maybe we'll be in a plane one day…"

And with that bold statement of intent, it's time for Pierce The Veil to return to the studio and put the finishing touches to the album that might just grant them access to rock's private jet-set. Chronic tour fatigue, physical ailments and noise-sensitive mountain bears have tried, and failed, to stop them getting this far. And, if the Long Island zombies don't get them, they might just emerge with a record that will, if not save your life, at least make it a whole lot better.

Either way, come early 2015, expect Vic Fuentes to still be laughing and dancing. But this time, he won't be on his own…

PIERCE THE VEIL'S AS-YET-UNTITLED FOURTH ALBUM IS DUE NEXT YEAR THROUGH FEARLESS RECORDS

PIERCE OF MIND!

FOUR DISTRACTIONS THAT HAVE KEPT PTV FROM STUDIO FEVER…

THE WORLD CUP!

JAIME PRECIADO SAYS… "Every time there was a game we wanted to watch, we'd put it on while we were jamming. My team is Mexico, and I'd wear my jersey every time they played. That was a pretty rough loss [when the Netherlands knocked them out]!"

HELICOPTERS!

VIC FUENTES SAYS… "We're always doing random stuff. We ordered a bunch of remote-controlled helicopters and have been flying them around the studio. Tony [Perry, guitar] is getting pretty good at it – he's got a mechanical friend right now!"

PLANES!

JAIME SAYS… "I'm getting my pilot's licence and there's an airport about three miles from the studio. I'm going to rent a plane to see New York from a different angle. I just did my first solo flight and it was awesome!"

HOOTERS!

VIC SAYS… "There aren't many places to eat where we are. But Hooters [U.S. restaurant chain featuring scantily clad waitresses] is always good for some ribs and good times."

JAIME SAYS… "One waitress was talking to these guys about gymnastics and did a backflip in the restaurant. We were like, 'This place is next level…'"

"WE'RE PUSHING OUR MINDS AND BODIES TO BREAKING POINT. THAT'S HOW I LIKE TO DO IT. I LIKE TO GO AS FAR AS I CAN"

VIC FUENTES

"Someone fetch the Yellow Pages..."

DON'T CALL IT A K!

PIERCE THE VEIL AREN'T THE ONLY ONES TURNING THEIR ATTENTION TO NEXT YEAR. 2015 LOOKS SET TO BE A MASSIVE 12 MONTHS FOR ROCK'S GIANTS – JUST ASK THESE 20 SUPERSTARS! BUT WHAT DO THEY HAVE IN STORE?

ALL TIME LOW

Though Jack Barakat might not be able to say the same for his bowel movements, if there's one thing you can set your watch by, it's All Time Low album releases. The Baltimore quartet have a habit of dropping a new record every couple of years, dating back to their 2005 debut, which means that we're edging closer to remarkably being overdue the follow-up to 2012's Don't Panic. Thankfully, with the band having already been in the studio with Mike Green, and frontman Alex Gaskarth knee-deep in writing, 2015 looks certain to end the wait. Don't bet against a mad rush to learn a whole bunch of new lyrics by the time the band's Wembley Arena show rolls around in March.

METALLICA

Will they or won't they? It's already been six years since Death Magnetic – the longest period Metallica have gone without releasing a new album in their history (no, we aren't counting Lulu). The band have spoken at length about their desire to get into the studio and the fact that they have "plenty of good ideas" knocking around in the practice room. However, after Lars revealed to K! recently that he's "not sure how long Metallica can physically continue for", the time seems to be now for the biggest heavy band of all time to get back to winning ways.

COMEBACKS OF 2015

COMEBACK!

PARAMORE

Always a prolific writer, Hayley Williams has been teasing that she's been working on new material from as long ago as January of this year, although the singer has said that at this point she has "no idea" exactly what these tracks will end up sounding like. "Taylor [York, guitar]'s writing all the time, and Jeremy [Davis, bass] writes quite a lot, too," Hayley told Rolling Stone last month. "I'm in that phase where I spend a lot of time journaling, and it's usually a month or two of that before I start liking what I'm writing." It's not just the wheels of the mammoth Monumentour buses that are rolling, then. Hearing any new material during their Reading & Leeds headline shows this month might out of the question, but all eyes are on a possible late-2015 album…

YOUNG GUNS

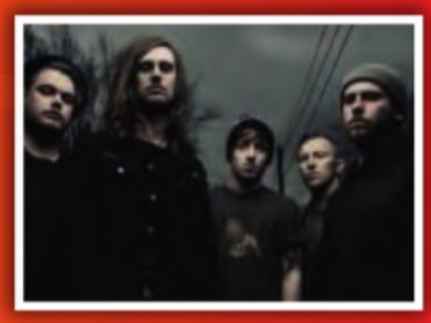
Following on from the success of 2012's anthem-packed Bones, Young Guns look to be quick out of the blocks in 2015, with their as-yet-untitled new album set for release early next year. Frontman Gustav Wood recently described the record to K! as "the bravest thing we have ever done", with the band even undertaking recording sessions with legendary electronica producer Dan The Automator. The lads are clearly in a confident mood, though, going on to say that they feel it's "easily the best collection of material that we've had… Every song on this record is better than anything on our other records." Big words, gentlemen. Big words indeed.

Words: Sam Coare, Tomas Doyle, Dan Slessor **Photos:** Paul Harries

CANCER BATS

The Canadian road-dogs have been perpetually on tour since the release of the skull-cracking Dead Set On Living (2012). But with Album Number Five in the can, the band are once again ready to pummel your ears with new tunes. They're pissed off, too – frontman Liam Cormier told K! that producer Ross Robinson (Slipknot/At The Drive-In) had taken to jamming hot sauce in the band's eyes to get them screaming. Expect a taster before Santa comes down the chimney, and the full album before you can say, 'Happy Easter.'

WHILE SHE SLEEPS



In truth, this is an album that should have seen the light of day long before 2015. However, after Loz Taylor's vocal surgery pushed the recording and release dates back, Sleeps finally seem in a position to get their second album out to the masses. With such a long and unfortunate delay (they started writing the album back in 2013…), the quintet will no doubt be desperate to once again demonstrate why they're widely regarded as one of the most incendiary bands in Britain.

PARKWAY DRIVE

Fans of throat-shredding Aussie lunacy everywhere, rejoice! Parkway Drive are already in the process of penning their 2015 return. We caught up with vocalist Winston McCall to see what exactly they've been up to.

SO, WINSTON, HOW HAS THE WRITING PROCESS FOR THE NEW RECORD BEEN SO FAR?

WINSTON MCCALL (*VOCALS*): "We've been writing *our arses* off. We put in three months of solid writing before this [current] tour, then we have another three months after it. We have the whole thing planned out. The details aren't getting released yet, but we're spending four times longer in the studio than we have in the past, and about that same length of time on the writing, too, so we have these really big ideas in play…"

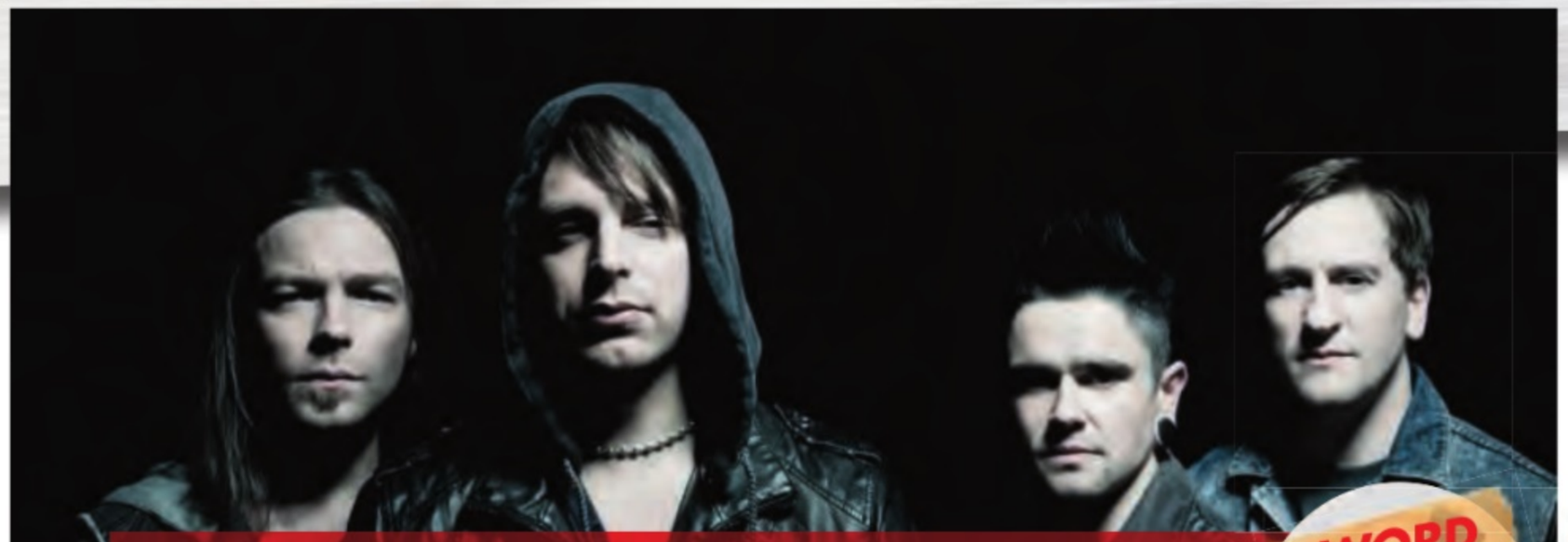
WORD FROM THE STUDIO!

IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE REALLY TAKING YOUR TIME WITH IT...

"The key to this record is time. We've loved what we've done before, but where we've taken one or two steps forward in advancing the sound in the past, this time we're running a country mile in expanding the spectrum. If we don't have time, we can't do that, and this definitely isn't going to be a metalcore record. It's going to be Parkway, but it's going to be far broader."

DOES THIS RECORD HAVE A CONCEPTUAL TIE-IN AT ALL?

"No, there's not a concept in the way of [2010's] Deep Blue or anything like that, but there is definitely a way of writing that we've stuck with since that, which involves tying the sounds together in a way that's cohesive. It's definitely not going to be song A, and then song B and a handful of stuff chucked together, it has to be a cohesive package. We've got, I think, about nine or 10 songs written, and we're not even close to being done. At the moment it's sounding really good, and I can definitely say that, as far as riffs are concerned, this shit is so much bigger than anything we've written in the past. Jeff [Ling, guitar] is a riff *lord* on this one!"



BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE

WORD FROM THE STUDIO!

After a mixed reaction to 2013's Temper Temper, Bullet's next album is arguably the most important of their career so far. So, how are the Welsh lads faring with the pressure?

GREETINGS, MATT. TALK US THROUGH HOW YOUR WRITING IS GOING...

MATT TUCK (*GUITAR/VOCALS*): "We've had two sessions so far – one in London around April and May time, and then we've been in Wales at Padge [Bullet guitarist]'s house working on things for the past few weeks. Things are going well; we're really pleased with what's coming out. The songs are shaping up quite smoothly, and the whole process has really enjoyable so far!"

HAVING A STUDIO IN YOUR GUITARIST'S HOUSE MUST BE CONVENIENT...

"It's great! We can go in there whenever we want to and don't have to travel miles and miles to get there. There aren't any rules about what we can and can't do in here. We don't want any outside influence on this album."

WHEN DO YOU THINK WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO HEAR THIS ALBUM, THEN?

"We're keeping things quite fluid right now, because we're still in the demo stage. It might take a long time, but it'll be worth it! We're looking at the last quarter of 2015."

ASKING ALEXANDRIA

They might have been busy tearing up Mayhem Festival in the United States recently, but the madmen of British rock are already lining up a 2015 release for their new record. "We're taking off the first half of the year to work on new music," says Danny Worsnop. "We're unpredictable. It could sound like Whitesnake, or we could rip off Suicide Silence." Either way, expect Danny's '80s revival outfit We Are Harlot's debut offering to beat it to the light of day.

IRON MAIDEN

Having triumphed at both Download and Sonisphere over the past couple of years, are Maiden finally settling down to record the follow-up to 2010's The Final Frontier? Rumours abound that Bruce Dickinson and co are putting together new material, with a tour-free run at the new year ahead of them. But with bassist Steve Harris having suggested that Maiden only have about five years left in them, could the next record be the Irons' last?

DON BROCO

The Bedford boys look ready to kick the door in with their 2015 release. Head to page 4 for more on what these cheeky chaps have been up to. Clue: it involves attempting to pull a girl working in a cafe. And some new music, they assure us.

BIFFY CLYRO

As one of the most consistent and best British bands going, Biffy Clyro are gearing up to unleash yet another stormer of a record – which, they hope, will be out in the latter part of next year. "It's going to be less orchestral [than 2013's Opposites]," the band told K! recently. "It's time for us to move on and do something new. In a way, Opposites has shown us what not to do for the next record. It certainly won't be as expansive or long. There's a reggae stoner song on the new album, one that sounds like Biffy meets The Police, and even a black metal pop song." Sounds, erm... eclectic to say the least. You just know they'll make it brilliant, though.

FALLING IN REVERSE

The main question when considering a new Falling In Reverse album is, 'What on *earth* is Ronnie Radke going to do next?' The most unpredictable frontman in rock has divulged that his band's new record is "nothing like" Fashionably Late and will feature "gnarly, way more progressive metal parts", as well as having a '90s rock feel. Ronnie's even said that he's ready to "let every demon out". Brace yourselves...

SLIPKNOT

You wait six years for a sniff of new music, and, suddenly, the floodgates open. Frontman Corey Taylor has revealed that comeback track The Negative One isn't even the first single from the Iowans' new album (that honour goes to The Devil In I), with the set scheduled for release in late October / early November. And as for 2015? A UK return is a certainty – but will it be at Download, Sonisphere, or even a UK Knotfest?

BLINK-182

Having split from their former label, Interscope/DGC, blink now finally seem in the right frame of mind to produce a full-length follow-up to 2011's Neighborhoods. The trio might not have written a single song yet, but work is set to commence after this summer's touring commitments. "If I had my say, I'd want this record to be more aggressive and more guitar-driven, but still experimental and catchy," Mark Hoppus told us last week. "More like the Untitled record, but with balls." Always with the genitalia jokes, Mark…

TOOL

The wait for a new Tool album has been a long and frustrating affair for the band as well as their army of fans, it would seem. A legal battle over merchandise rights and insurance has led to the quartet spending most of their time talking to lawyers rather than playing music, and a precise release date for new material seems a way off. That being said, if ever a band were worth having a little patience over, it's these prog maestros. Just don't hold your breath, eh?

BRING ME THE HORIZON

BMTH have always been leaders rather than followers, and having spun their sound on its head with 2013's Sempiternal, eyes are drifting to the thought of where they could go with their next record. Will Oli Sykes' recent admissions of drug addiction and recovery herald a new lyrical path for the band? Or will they stick with their trademark rage-fuelled polemic? Either way, Jordan Fish [synths] told K! in May of this year that the band are in the early stages of writing new material, so the wrecking ball is already rolling…

GUNS N' ROSES

Remarkably, Axl Rose has claimed that the new GN'R album (what he describes as "the second half" of 2008's Chinese Democracy) is finished and ready to go. Similarly, a remix album of Democracy is supposedly complete. And with original bassist Duff McKagan recently rejoining the band for a handful of shows, rumours are still abound of *that* reformation. Come on, 2015, let's go down in history…

WORD FROM THE STUDIO!

FOUR YEAR STRONG

The Massachusetts pop-punks broke their three-year-long wait for new material last month… with an EP. But when are we getting a full album?

IS 2015 LOOKING TO BE A BIG YEAR FOR FOUR YEAR STRONG?
DAN O'CONNOR (*GUITAR/VOCALS*):
"I hope so! We dropped the Go Down In History EP this summer and have some tours in the States this fall, but going into next year we're wanting to hit some overseas stuff, and get back to the UK as soon as we can."

IS THE EP AN INDICATION OF WHERE YOU'RE GOING ON THE NEXT RECORD?
"We have a lot of riffs that we've been working on that come from a similar place. Taking the time off that we did gave us a better sense of who we want to be as a band. We're at a point in our lives where we want to push ourselves, and we really enjoy challenging ourselves with what we come up with, and Alan [Day, vocals/guitar] and I are really into exploring our guitar work, which is why the EP is so *riffy*. We want this new record to be *fun*."

2015 MARKS 10 YEARS OF IT'S OUR TIME. ANY ANNIVERSARY PLANS?
"Until you told me that, I had no idea! (*Laughs*) I'm gonna talk to the guys…"

DEFTONES

After the rampaging success of 2012's Koi No Yokan – a record which, even by Deftones' astronomically high standards, still *slays* – the band are back writing with a view to getting into the studio early in 2015. "We don't really plan on spending that much time on [the new record]," Chino told us ahead of the band's recent Sonisphere leg-stretcher. "I feel like we make our best music when we don't drag it out, but rather when we go in there and start playing off each other. That's in the spirit of the last couple of records; it's just about capturing that moment in time together. The first thing we usually do when we get into the studio is sit around a table. Stephen [Carpenter, guitar] will spark up a joint, and we listen to music and talk shit. That's the basis of our friendship."

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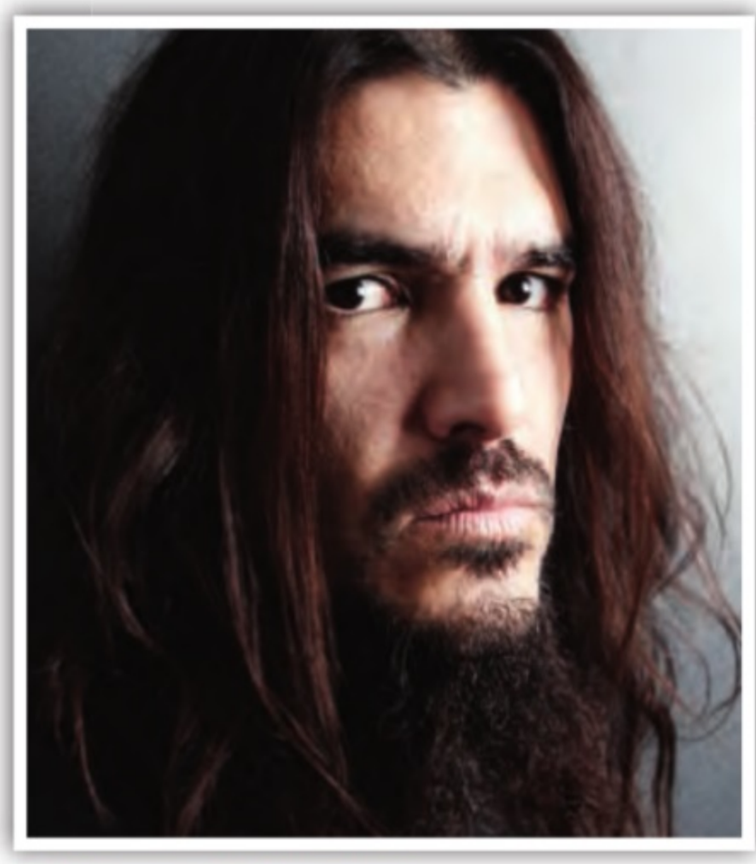

ROBB FLYNN, MACHINE HEAD

When we asked Paul Harries, the snapper responsible for this shot, to comment, all he said was: "Robb is the metal beard master!" And you can't argue with him! The Machine Head frontman puts all these other beards to shame. Bow down, other beards!

JEREMY MCKINNON, A DAY TO REMEMBER

"If you even think of touching Jeremy's beard, his hands go into instant-attack mode," explains Paul Harries, referring to what Jezza is doing with his mitts just out of shot. "You have been warned." Okay, Paul, we'll see if Simon Neil minds us fiddling with his instead…

SIMON NEIL, BIFFY CLYRO

"Simon has had various types of beard over the years, and they all suit him," says Paul, who also took this pic. "Apart from when he bleached it blond… I'm still not sure if that was a joke or not." It didn't have 'Knock, knock…' shaved into it, so we're guessing he was being serious.

MAX HELYER, YOU ME AT SIX

While Paul Harries has been extremely complimentary about the last three beard-wearing musicians he snapped, when it comes to You Me At Six guitarist Max Helyer, not so much… "I'm glad to say the last time I saw Max this beard was gone," he says. And we agree.

DANNY WORSNOP, ASKING ALEXANDRIA

"It's not easy to just wake up and right away be asked to be an angel," explains photographer Andrew Lipovsky. "But with some fine grooming and a quick wardrobe change, Danny plays the part well." Quite! We've never seen an angel with such resplendent facial hair.

CHRIS KAEL, FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH

"This is Chris trying to entice a koala out of a tree to come dine with him," explains snapper Martin Philbey. "I'm not sure if he has placed those gum leaves into his beard or if they were just growing there organically, but, either way, the koala seemed wary and not open to the invite."

MACHINE HEAD

ROBB FLYNN

KERRANG!

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

KERRANG!

SIMON NEIL

BIFFY CLYRO

YOU ME AT SIX

MAX HELYER

KERRANG!

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

ASKING ALEXANDRIA

DANNY WORSNOP

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Perry Farrell: the Dot Cotton Years

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ON THE PERFECT WAY TO START THE DAY...

"I like to start my morning with an ice cream breakfast!"

ON BEING AN ARTIST...

"You're not going to buy a book of colour-by-numbers and call yourself an artist, are you? No. An artist is someone who pulls things out of nowhere."

ON THE UK...

"I look forward to coming to the UK. I look at it as a musical education, because you guys hold music in such high esteem. There's always something new that you can pick out, reconfigure and make your own. I also love the sophistication of the way the UK socialises. Some people might laugh at that, thinking that having some grog at a local pub isn't sophisticated, but, in a way, it is compared to the United States. In America, your average bar just shows sports and serves chicken wings – *that's* not very sophisticated! Even something as antiquated as darts has a bit more style."

ON 'IMPORTANT' MUSIC...

"I find the late '70s and early '80s to be a very important time in musical history. In the early '70s, you have the guitar gods – Led Zeppelin, Eric Clapton, Bad Company – they were huge, they were monsters. After them came punk rock. Far less people attended those shows and listened to that music – but it was just as important. Then, after that, you have post-punk and New Romantic bands such as The Psychedelic Furs, The Cure and Joy Division. Again, even less people were there to see them – but was it important? To me, it was *even* more important than the punk era."

ON HIS MUSICAL 'GENIUS'...

"I'd actually say I prefer Ritual [De Lo Habitual, Jane's Addiction's 1990 album] to Nothing's Shocking. I saved the songs that

WORDS: JAMES HICKIE PHOTO: GETTY

I thought would be the most refined and sophisticated, although Nothing's Shocking has a great raw energy. I don't want to throw the word 'genius' around, but if you're going to say one had more genius than the other, then I would say Ritual had more genius."

ON JANE'S ADDICTION'S STATUS AS ROCK HEAVYWEIGHTS...

"If you look at music using a sporting analogy, then, pound for pound, Jane's Addiction are real contenders. We're an incredible live group; we've got great recordings, obviously, including an album that's celebrating being 25 years old. It's something to be proud of. In terms of stamina, albums, live shows – we are definitely in the running for one of the great groups of all time."

ON JANE'S BEING SLIGHTLY OLDER ROCKSTARS...

"Well, now we're a bit slicker, but we still like our liquor!"

ON HIS LOVE OF WINE...

"The oldest bottle of wine I ever had, which was recently, was in Whistler [British Columbia, Canada]. I bought myself a beautiful bottle from 1969. I opened it up and thought to myself, 'Back in 1969, there was a guy corking up wine, hoping that some young couple would fall in love over this wine.' Sure enough, in 2014, I popped that bottle and fell in love with my wife all over again."

ON FASHION...

"When we came to the UK to do some press, [the airline had] lost my luggage, so I went to an S&M store and bought myself all rubber bondage gear. I was walking around London wearing it, and no-one really gave me a second look. You could practically get away with murder in terms of what you wore. As they say: Nothing's Shocking!"

ON SURFING...

"Surfing can break bones, you can get eaten by a shark, you can be run over by another surfer, you can smash your head on the reef. All that being said, you *can* also have a mellow, Zen-like experience."

AND FINALLY, ON CLOWNS...

"The whole image of clowns really appeals to me. But you've got to be careful with using them nowadays. It's very hard to use a clown originally."

"IT'S HARD TO USE A CLOWN ORIGINALLY"

PERRY FARRELL

ON THE NOTHING'S SHOCKING SHOWS...

"I really wasn't all that interested in doing it," Perry says of the forthcoming shows to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Jane's Addiction's seminal album, Nothing's Shocking. "But my wife said, 'It's an honour to have an album that you gave forth to the world and, in its own way, changed the course of music.'"

Mrs Farrell certainly isn't wrong. Nothing's Shocking is an *important* album, inspiring the music of alt.rock luminaries such as Smashing Pumpkins, Nine Inch Nails and Pearl Jam. But, as one of the album's creators explains, its *importance* has historical, if not quite commercial, currency.

"It's a strange world, the world of music," Perry muses. "A lot of times, the most important moments in the history of music were not seen by many, and record sales may not reflect importance. I think Jane's Addiction is one of those bands. We came out at the same time as Guns N' Roses, but I don't think Guns N' Roses were any more important than Jane's Addiction."

Los Angeles of the mid- to late-'80s was awash with the Guns N' Roses of this world – bands big on hair, riffs and attitude. Jane's Addiction took that formula and turned it on its head, blending those riffs with punk and folk before unleashing their secret weapon, Dave Navarro – a guitar god in the mould of Led Zeppelin's Jimmy Page. It was a combination that meant Jane's created a sound quite unlike anything at the time.

"In fact, you could argue than Jane's Addiction were more important than Guns N' Roses," Perry laughs. "Although GN'R sold, like, 50 million records…"

JANE'S ADDICTION PERFORM NOTHING'S SHOCKING IN LONDON AND MANCHESTER THIS MONTH. SEE THE GIG GUIDE FOR DETAILS

Nothing to see here, move along now… (*from left*) guitarist Dave Navarro, Perry Farrell, bassist Eric Avery and drummer Stephen Perkins

THE HYPE

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO PLAY MUSIC IN THE EYE OF THE STORM? FOR EVERYONE TO WANT A PIECE OF YOU? JAMES MCMAHON CATCHES UP WITH ROYAL BLOOD, THE GREAT HOPES OF UK ROCK, AND ASKS: IS EVERYTHI

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

Royal Blood are the most hyped rock band in Britain. They are – as everyone who has written about them since they formed is so fond of recounting – the Arctic Monkeys' favourite new band. They were the support band of choice for the Kim Deal-less charlatans peddling their wares as the Pixies earlier this year. The West Sussex duo made their Download debut in June. Before that, they were the *only* band with guitars (or at least *a* guitar – a bass guitar, run through a bass amp, which recalls the sound of a mating brontosaurus) to feature in the BBC's culturally worthless Sound Of… poll – a token nod to rock within a swamp of elitist, hipster pop.

But, when all's said and done, *who gives a shit about that.*

"Royal Blood is the most fun I've ever had in my life," says bassist and vocalist Mike Kerr. "It's always fun. It's never been not fun. No matter how little sleep I've had, or whether there's not enough people at the gig, or if it sounds a bit shit…"

"… it's always the funnest thing ever," says drummer Ben Thatcher, completing his bandmate's sentence.

A trained eye can spot the bands doing *all this* for the wrong reasons a mile off. They're glassy-eyed. They're bushy-tailed. They'll drop to their knees at the slightest hint of an opportunity. They'll flit from sound to sound, style to style, chasing the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. And while they're capable of love – of money, fame, status and standing – music is nowhere near the top of their priorities.

Royal Blood is not one of those bands.

"We do this because we love making music," says Mike. "It's that simple."

Mike and Ben yawn. It's the day after their set at T In The Park festival. They tried to sleep last night while a hen party whiled away their time throwing wine glasses at each other outside their hotel rooms. In three hours' time, they'll open for the aforementioned Monkeys at Dublin's Marlay Park. Today, as with most days in the past 18 months, the promotion trail for their forthcoming debut album rumbles on. And on. Basically, they're musicians – Mike a trained pianist, Ben "drumming since before I could walk", both former session musicians – learning how to be rockstars.

"We don't mind doing interviews and stuff," Mike says, "but you don't form a band because you have an interesting personality. You form a band because you love music. Then you have to learn these skills you don't necessarily have…

"The other day, we got asked in an interview, 'What do you stand for?'" he continues. "I replied, 'If you want someone who stands for something, go interview a politician…'"

Ben laughs. "I always want to know more about the people whose music I like," adds the drummer. "I mean, I love reading about Led Zeppelin. But the music comes first and *then* you want to know what the people who made it had for breakfast."

And what did you have for breakfast?

"I had a baguette with some beans and eggs in it," drawls Mike.

"And I'm going to have eggs Benedict," says Ben, looking over Mike's shoulder for a waiter.

Ben tried to poke Mike's guitar out of his face

"IF YOU WANT SOMEONE WHO STANDS FOR SOMETHING, INTERVIEW A POLITICIAN"

MIKE KERR

E THEORY

WHITE
NG OKAY?

Is that the most stupid question Royal Blood have ever been asked by a journalist?

Mike laughs, shaking his head. "Well, there are sometimes occasions where people ask deep, specific questions about my lyrics…"

"Like, 'Who's this song about? Tell me your life story…'" adds Ben.

"I'm like, 'No,'" says Mike, to Ben's chuckles. "It could mean whatever it fucking means to whoever's listening to it. I don't want to take that away from anyone…"

What's the question you most hate being asked?

Both band members reply instantly, in unison.

"'What's it like being a two-piece?'"

"It's like asking what it's like to be an only child," says Mike. "It's all we know…"

"Or anything to do with The White Stripes," says Ben. "But then it's flattering. They're a great band, and they've proved there's no limit to how big a two-piece can be."

You described Royal Blood as being the most fun ever. How is it?

"It's just pure fun," they reply.

Do you know the crowd is there when you're playing?

"Not always. It depends," says Mike. "It feels like our own world, but I'm trying to communicate with them more…"

Do you talk to each other onstage?

"All the time," says Mike. "Sometimes Ben shouts at me when I run over time, or, 'We're in Birmingham, not Leeds, you twat!' and stuff like that. 'Can you smell pizza?!'"

"I shouted that once," says Ben. "In [London's] Finsbury Park, supporting the Monkeys [in May]. Mike came over to me during the last song. All of a sudden I get this huge whiff of pizza, and I was like, 'Can you smell pizza?' Mike looks at me, puzzled, and goes, 'I can't take a picture – I'm playing!' I was just like, 'No! *Can you smell pizza?*'"

This month sees the release of Royal Blood, the band's excellent debut album. You'll have heard the debut single, Out Of The Black, but most likely not new songs, such as Ten Tonne Skeleton, which possesses the best riff you'll hear this side of a Kyuss reunion. It's basically the best Queens Of The Stone Age album that Josh Homme never wrote. An army of noise that betrays the reality of the two guys from a small seaside town that made it. It also features three songs from the band's first demo – the exact same recordings! – paid for from £400 redundancy Mike took from his old job as a chef.

"I realised we were onto something special after the first time me and Ben met up to play," says Mike. "It was unique. It was almost like a relief; it felt like something clicked…"

"That's why we find ourselves here today," says Ben, nodding towards Kerrang!'s Dictaphone. "Nothing is more important to us than making music…"

And so Royal Blood are the most hyped band in Britain. As long as they continue their love affair with noise, there's a lot to suggest that at some point they might be the best, too.

ROYAL BLOOD'S SELF-TITLED DEBUT ALBUM IS OUT ON AUGUST 25 VIA WARNER BROS. THEY PLAY READING & LEEDS THIS MONTH. SEE THE GIG GUIDE

BLOOD AND GUTS

WHAT ELSE DID WE GLEAN FROM OUR TIME WITH ROYAL BLOOD?

THEY LOVE MUSIC. IN ALL ITS FORMS

Mike may love "The Beatles, The Beach Boys, Queen, Jeff Buckley". They may both have cut their teeth on nu-metal. But they're serious pop junkies, too. "I grew up listening to Spice Girls and Britney Spears," says Ben. "And Michael Jackson. What I love about his music is the gaps. That's what makes those drumbeats and grooves so amazing. We try to take the same 'less is more' approach to Royal Blood…"

THEY MET… WE'LL LET THEM EXPLAIN

BEN: "Mike came along to see my band play at a college gig I was playing. But really he'd come along to check out my girlfriend."

K!: Is that true?

MIKE: "Uh-huh."

K!: Did you know she was Ben's girlfriend?

MIKE: "I did when he'd come offstage."

K!: Awkward.

MIKE: "Yeah."

BEN: "And we've been friends ever since!"

THE TRUTH ABOUT ARCTIC MONKEYS…

There isn't a single Royal Blood review that doesn't mention that Arctic Monkeys drummer Matt Helders wore a Royal Blood T-shirt onstage, before they were even signed. "I actually wore a T-shirt of Matt Helders wearing a Royal Blood T-shirt at Glastonbury," says Ben. "It's just part of our story…"

'Have you had a haircut? You look… different': Mike Kerr (*left*) and Ben Thatcher

VOODOO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

ON MEMOIRS Of A Murderer, David weaves a mysterious force into his lyrics called Papa Legba. He's a voodoo gatekeeper to the spiritual world. His cross (a 'vévé', above) adorns the band's website, and is a symbol that represents the intersection of Heaven and Earth. On the track Take It, David asks Legba to *'open the gates'* for him to the next world. But what's it all about?

"The [voodoo] religion is very human in nature, and is known for spells to get money, good luck, or to bring your lover back… hexes, curses and so on," David explains. "It's identifiable on the level of everyone wanting their fix, here and now, fast. It sits well in songs from Memoirs… such as Take It, where it's almost reminiscent of [blues legend] Robert Johnson [who was said to have sold his soul to the Devil in return to become a better blues player. He died aged 27]."

Er, got that? Good…

"TROUBLE IS RIGHT BEHIND US WHEREVER WE GO…"

DAVID GUNN

WARNING! THIS BAND ARE DANGEROUS TO YOUR HEALTH

THEY'RE THE WORLD'S MOST EXCITING – AND INFAMOUS – NEW BAND. BUT WHAT ARE **KING 810** *REALLY* ABOUT? SIMON YOUNG ENTERS THE MIND OF **DAVID GUNN**…

PHOTO: ANDREW LIPOVSKY

David Gunn almost died in 2012. Walking back to his home in Flint, Michigan, the King 810 frontman heard a car pull up alongside him. A gun was pointed squarely at his face with the simple request of his bag. He resisted. During an altercation, he wound up getting shot and stabbed and was left for dead on the street.

"I had four or five buckshot pieces go into my side and my leg, and I lost a lot of blood," says David. He remained on the ground for half an hour, drifting in and out of consciousness. It was then that he had an awakening that changed his life and the course of the band.

"It was kind of spiritual," he explains. "Everything had been lifted from my vision and I could see things for what they really were. It was like a road map had been laid out in front of me. There's that [Winston Churchill] quote – 'There is nothing more exhilarating than to be shot at with no result.' That kind of thing changes you as a person, but I wouldn't take it back."

King 810 – David, guitarist Andrew Beal, bassist Eugene Gill and drummer Andrew Workman – will release their debut album, Memoirs Of A Murderer, this month. Look them up and you'll find blogs about baseball bats and the quartet's shows descending into violence. Guns. Knives. Faces obscured behind bandanas. There's an unsettling video pieced together from CCTV footage of armed robberies and shoot-outs with police.

"Trouble follows us," says David. "It's right behind us wherever we go…"

Random acts of violence are commonplace in Flint, Michigan – a place dubbed the 'most dangerous city in America'.

This is not frothing hyperbole. The city, which lies 66 miles north west of Detroit, was once home to a booming car industry. However, during the mid-'80s, car giant General Motors – who in 1978 employed 80,000 people in Flint alone – moved its factories to Mexico and an estimated 30,000 people lost their livelihoods. In 2006, the number of GM employees in the city numbered just 8,000. Flint was left in a shambles, and quickly spiralled into a decaying region of poverty, drug abuse and violent crime, which is seven times the national average.

David was only a few years old when the plug to his hometown – nicknamed Murdertown – was effectively wrenched out of the wall.

"I grew up on the north side – the most violent area in the city," says the frontman. "The car plant closing impacted everyone, and I grew up in the aftermath. It wasn't until I was a little older that I realised that Flint wasn't like everywhere else. But this is where I was born and it's where I'll stay. I've never been interested in leaving. It's part of who I am and who we are."

Indeed, Flint is the blackened heart of King 810, and without Flint there would be no King 810. David's brush with death inspired a new way of writing. Out went the poetic and metaphorical verses that informed their 2012 EP Midwest Monsters; instead, David spelled out Flint's penchant for violence, writ large in black and white, washed over with a shade of crimson.

Memoirs Of A Murderer is not, though, just grinding riffs and bloodied verses. If you've heard the lead singles, Killem All and Fat Around The Heart, you may think you have a handle on where King 810 are coming from. But scratch below the surface and you'll find something far deeper. The 16-track album is split into three separate movements, each exploring different facets of love: brotherhood, relationships and something altogether more abstract, told through heavy songs, acoustic songs and spoken-word pieces.

"People will take those heavy songs at face value," bristles the singer. "They'll walk away thinking that's what King do – write these violence-endorsing heavy songs that are for the everyman in the mosh-pit. But the album is front-loaded like that on purpose.

"There are so many sides to people in general," he continues. "I can't understand why a band would record 10 heavy metal songs and put in an acoustic anomaly on there. I couldn't live with that. There's more to King than that. Nothing about this record is safe in any way. I can talk about the things I do on the record, because that's what we've actually been through."

David's vivid descriptions of life, death and survival come from personal experiences. He says he first started writing as a child, not as escape, but in a sense of compulsion.

"Writing was never a therapeutic escape for me," says the frontman. "I never once thought I should get a job or go to college. Everything was secondary to writing. People who use music or writing as an escape? What I'm doing is nothing like that. I was born to do this."

We speak with David for 90 minutes. He has all the time in the world, he says, as he's doing his laundry. This simple freedom was almost snatched away from him when he and bassist Eugene were arrested at Detroit Metro airport en route to Download festival in June. The pair were charged with 'assault with intent to cause great bodily harm' dating back to a brawl outside a Flint bar last October. David's case was thrown out of court, while Eugene is awaiting trial.

"They didn't say what it was for at the time," David says of his arrest. "I was just wondering, 'What the fuck they got me for this time?' Maybe someone in the police force – who we've had multiple run-ins with over the years – doesn't like us. Someone tried to pull some strings and it didn't work."

Trouble indeed follows King 810 wherever they go. But this focus is not without foundation. Some blogs claim the band have been blacklisted by venues across Michigan, and their appearance at Rock On The Range in Columbus, Ohio, stirred up controversy when the band were flanked by six men armed with (fake) assault rifles.

"You want to visually represent your music, your hometown and what you see every day… it's a *show*," reasons David. "People think we had armed gunmen to *protect* us. Like we'd be scared of anyone at a fucking show."

King 810 are set to hit these shores in September. You have been warned.

The festival showers weren't up to much

MEMOIRS OF A MURDERER WILL BE RELEASED ON AUGUST 18 THROUGH ROADRUNNER. THE BAND TOUR THE UK IN SEPTEMBER – SEE THE GIG GUIDE

THE SONGS T
SAVED MY LI

This week: Sam Carter, Architects

ARCHITECTS MUST SPEND ALL THEIR TIME THRASHING AROUND TO METAL, RIGHT? WHERE ELSE WOULD THEY LEARN THE ART OF HEAVINESS? WILL SMITH AND THE BEATLES, IT SEEMS…

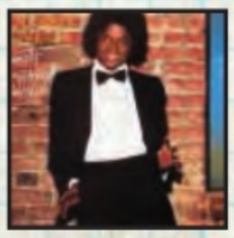
WORDS: DAN SLESSOR **PHOTO:** PAUL HARRIES

THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER HEARING WAS…
THE BEATLES, YELLOW SUBMARINE
"My dad is a massive Beatles fan, so I heard them a lot when I was little. This is definitely one of their more fun songs, and when you're a kid it's easy to latch onto it. It's not until you're a bit older that you realise it's super-weird! The older I get, the more I really appreciate them as a band. My dad still plays them a lot. He's Paul McCartney's biggest fan, and my dream is to be able to help him meet him."
FIND IT: Revolver (1966)

MY FAVOURITE SONG AT SCHOOL WAS…
BLINK-182, ALL THE SMALL THINGS
"When I hear this, it takes me back to my first drum kit and trying to be like [blink drummer] Travis Barker! The video was great, too. The way it ripped on all the pop bands of the time was something that was just so fun and cool."
FIND IT: Enema Of The State (1999)

THE FIRST SONG I EVER LEARNED TO PLAY WAS…
KORN, BLIND
"This was the first song my drum teacher taught me. I was never really a massive Korn fan, but the reason he taught it was that the intro's really easy. It's just tapping on a cymbal. I could just about handle that, but it all fell apart a bit when the drums properly kicked in! My friend learned it on guitar as well, and we'd drive our parents insane playing that same part over and over. In my mind we were fucking *awesome*!"
FIND IT: Korn (1994)

THE SADDEST SONG I'VE EVER HEARD IS…
DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE, PASSENGER SEAT
"I'm not sure if the lyrics are really sad but, musically, this is so powerful. If we're on tour and in the van and this comes on, it instantly gets really quiet. It can even bring on a 'fuck this, we're going home' moment! I do like sad music, but I really have to be in the right mood for it."
FIND IT: Transatlanticism (2003)



THE SONG THAT MAKES ME WANT TO DANCE IS…
MICHAEL JACKSON, ROCK WITH YOU
"How could you not want to dance to this song? Seriously, you can't not dance when it comes on. It's just a great song, and whenever it comes on, me and Alex [Dean, Architects bassist] have a little boogie to it. If you're on tour and wake up in a shitty mood, and you're tired and cranky and you walk into a venue and they're playing it over the PA, you suddenly realise you have no reason at all to be in a shitty mood! My dance moves aren't very good, though. I know I'm in a band and I'm supposed to be used to people looking at me, but take the microphone away from me and I'm like a rabbit in the headlights!"
FIND IT: Off The Wall (1979)

"TAKE THE MIC OFF ME AND I'M LIKE A RABBIT IN THE HEADLIGHTS…"

THE SONG I FELL IN LOVE TO IS…
SIGUR RÓS, SÆGLÓPUR
"This is a really hard one. Pretty much anything on Takk… reminds me of being a kid and thinking, 'Wow, girls are awesome!' I was listening to this a lot around the time I got my first girlfriend. I couldn't say for sure if it's one that we listened to together or anything, it just reminds me of that period, and it's always nice to think back to that."
FIND IT: Takk… (2005)

THE SONG I WISH I'D WRITTEN IS…
NIRVANA, SMELLS LIKE TEEN SPIRIT
"It's an amazing song. That riff is so iconic, anyone in the world can hear it and immediately know it's Nirvana. Obviously the video was a big thing, too, because having a band playing in a school spoke to everyone dreaming of impressing everyone by playing a rock'n'roll show. Kurt Cobain was such an incredible songwriter, and to come even close to that would be amazing. Nirvana influenced so many people to pick up guitars or start playing drums, which is one hell of a legacy. And, of course, had I written that song, I'd be absolutely minted!"
FIND IT: Nevermind (1991)

THE SONG I'VE WRITTEN I'M MOST PROUD OF IS…
ARCHITECTS, DEVIL'S ISLAND
"This was the first step we took into the more political side the band now has. It was quite off the cuff – we were in the studio and the riots started in London. It grabbed me and made me take a real interest in things going on around me in ways I never had before. Since then, we've started to talk about a lot more important stuff, and I think it was good to have that aggression and passion behind it, which had been lacking on the album before that [The Here And Now, 2011]. It was good to get some balls back."
FIND IT: Daybreaker (2012)

WHAT IF...

THE SONG I WANT PLAYED AT MY FUNERAL IS...
WILL SMITH, GETTIN' JIGGY WIT IT

"I'm a bit of an arse, so I could imagine everyone standing there being a bit sad and then this coming on and everyone thinking, 'What a fucking *bastard*!' I think it would be positive for them as well, because they'd end up thinking, 'Thank fuck he's gone!' This is assuming people would actually be at my funeral. Maybe I'll turn into a real arsehole and no-one will be there. But even that's kind of a funny thought to me – my coffin being lowered with that song playing and only a caretaker there to appreciate it."

FIND IT: Big Willie Style (1997)

THE BEST SONG EVER WRITTEN IS...
FOO FIGHTERS, EVERLONG

"There's no contest on this. It's the best song in the world, and there are so many people who think that. It was one of those songs that as soon as I first heard it I had to put it on again and again and again. Whether they play the acoustic version or the full-band-rocking-out version, it's amazing. And the album version has great production as well. Just everything about this song is great. It's so brilliantly simple, too. I remember everyone at school learning to play it, which I think plays a big part of why people fell in love with it. It feels like one of your own songs, and that, too, is an amazing thing to give to people."

FIND IT: The Colour And The Shape (1997)

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LIVES

THE GUY AT THE ROCK SHOW

KKKKK = CLASSIC KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD KK = AVERAGE K = POOR

GUEST REVIEW BY JOSH FRANCESCHI

blink-182

O2 ACADEMY BRIXTON, LONDON.
06.08.14

KKKKK

BY JOSH FRANCESCHI

WORDS: JOSH FRANCESCHI PHOTOS: PAUL HARRIES

AT SCHOOL, if you didn't like blink-182, I wasn't going to be friends with you. Not because you liked different music to me, but because I thought you weren't going to understand me as a person. I thought, 'If you don't like blink-182, then you can't possibly like who I am and what I'm about, 'cause you don't get it.'

Like most people, the first blink song I heard was All The Small Things. I was never really into punk music before then, and they introduced me to a whole realm of music: Warped Tour music, pop-punk bands, Drive-Thru Records. They played a pivotal part in me falling in love with music. When I got my first guitar, I wasn't learning Nirvana songs or The Beatles, I was learning blink-182 songs.

You Me At Six wouldn't be a band if it wasn't for blink. They were the second-ever show I went to, at Wembley Arena, and they got the whole arena laughing their arses off in between songs, and having the best time with their friends. blink were the voice of my generation, and to think we're now only two slots behind them on the Main Stage at Reading & Leeds is ridiculous.

Tonight was the best I've seen them live. I don't think there'll ever be another band where every single member could be the frontman of their own band. Every member is a full-on fucking rockstar in the best way possible, and interviewing Mark reinforced why I love them: he oozes cool, not in a show-offy way, in a punk rock way. When I saw the set list, I told my girlfriend, 'First six songs – I'm there.' Feeling This is a massive, massive song. That album [blink-182, 2003] came out at a time when blink and other bands like them really soundtracked my whole life. Tonight, I was looking at my friends and screaming the lyrics in their faces, because blink evoke that sort of emotion.

I liked the dick jokes and the big 'fuck' sign. If blink-182 were very serious and not talking between songs, the majority of the audience would be disappointed. This is a band that's been doing it for 20 years and, if you can't respect and enjoy that, you're missing the point of what music's about.

Who needs bandmates when you can clone yourself?

Travis did a mean meerkat impression

Mark and Josh: they're feeling this

Mark strained to see himself on the other page

SET LIST - 6

21- FEELIN THIS
22- WHATS MY AGE AGAIN
22- ROCK SHOW
23- UP ALL NIGHT
21- DOWN
21- I MISS YOU
24- DUMPWEED
24- WISHING WELL
28- DISASTER
25- ALWAYS
21- STAY TOGETHER
26- AFTER MIDNIGHT
21- FIRST DATE
29- DOGS EATING DOGS
21- HYBRID MOMENTS
21- NATIVES
21- MAN OVERBOARD
27- GHOST
21- SMALL THINGS
22- CAROUSEL

21- VIOLENCE
21- DAMMIT

5 MINUTES WITH...

MARK HOPPUS AND JOSH FRANCESCHI

(BLINK-182, *BASS/VOCALS*) (YOU ME AT SIX, *VOCALS*)

JOSH FRANCESCHI: "WHAT SORT OF SONGS DO YOU PREFER TO PLAY LIVE?"

MARK HOPPUS: "The faster ones! Probably the [one I enjoy the] least is All The Small Things, which is ironic, 'cause it's our most successful song and it bought us all houses! I don't resent the song – it's a great song – it's just so easy to play that it's not very much fun."

JOSH: "HOW'S THE NEW RECORD COMING ALONG, THEN?"

MARK: "We're just starting to write. A month ago, Tom said, 'For those people asking, yes, the new blink album's on the way.' And his one tweet or whatever it was got picked up by all these outlets. All of a sudden, I started getting Google Alerts saying, 'blink-182 new album,' and I was like, 'What the hell's going on?' I called up Tom and he was like, 'I don't know what happened.' But the plan is to record a new album, have it out by next summer and be touring next summer."

JOSH: "WHAT'S THE BIGGEST CHANGE YOU'VE SEEN IN THE INDUSTRY OVER BLINK'S CAREER?"

MARK: "We've gone from being an indie band doing everything ourselves, to the major-label period where labels would spend $2 million on a music video and think nothing of it, to now, where we're going back to do-it-yourself again. When we were first a band, we made all our money on T-shirts. I remember when we were literally, like, 'We're in Salt Lake City, we have to get to Denver. The gas is this amount of money: if we get one burrito and one soda each, we'll have enough to get there.' Then we made a bunch of money selling records. And now it's back to how it was before: we make money by touring and selling T-shirts!"

JOSH: "AND WHAT HAVE YOU GOT PLANNED FOR READING & LEEDS?"

MARK: "We have pyro, we have fire, and we've got 22 years of hits that we're gonna crank down people's ears!"

blink had been away so long, Tom's guitar had rusted

Mark's new backpack was a great singer

Jacob Bannon: rubbish at Pat-a-cake

Converge lived to regret getting the cheap sun block

CONVERGE

PLUS: MARTYRDÖD, OKKULTOKRATI

ACADEMY 3, MANCHESTER. 04.08.14

KKKKK

MASSACHUSETTS METALCORE MAESTROS ORCHESTRATE A BLISTERING UK RETURN

WORDS: SAM LAW PHOTOS: ANDY GALLAGHER

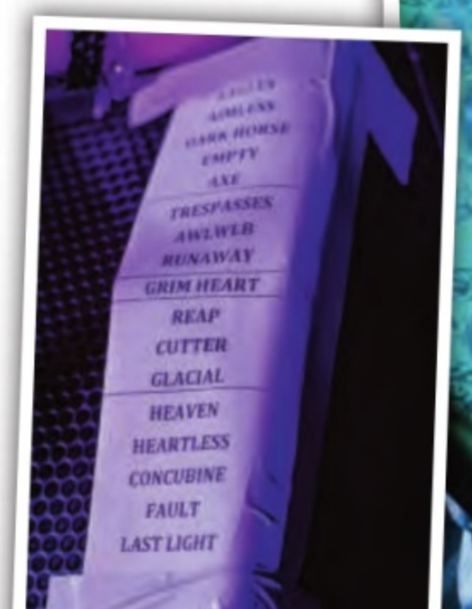
CONVERGE ARE a band on fire. Still blazing away after almost a quarter-century, still searing every eardrum within screaming distance, and still capable of burning back pretenders to their proto-metalcore throne. Festival season's in full swing, but tonight's tiny sweatbox setting is apt for Converge. It's confined chaos, where lightning is captured and chucked back into the room like a sweaty petrol bomb.

Oslo blackened-sludgers Okkultokrati generate the first sparks. Their hardcore-inflected noise – filtered through a lens of pure Norwegian evil – breeds a sense of genuine unease; all mangled guitars and frostbitten terror. Next up, Swedish crust nightmares Martyrdöd spike and stretch the atmosphere further still. Weaving frayed thrash sensibilities in among dingier punk influences like patches on a battered battle jacket, it's an extraordinarily uncompromising, confrontational vision of underground extremity to come.

Converge might've surfaced from the subterranean scene as long ago as 2001's essential Jane Doe album, but it's an unbending adherence to their original ethic that's kept the torch lit. There's adrenaline-rush urgency, sublime rage and cacophonous catharsis. Sporadic, soothing moments of ambient ease shatter and explode as if overwhelmed by raw energy. That splintering dynamic's largely down to ever-moving frontman Jacob Bannon. The active volcano at the band's core, he's a hardcore hero at the top of his game. Articulate, engaging, possessed and terrifying, he'll break your nose, but you'll take it with a smile.

Things reach a frenzy during the strange, stuttering savagery of Eagles Become Vultures, while Grim Heart / Black Rose is a daringly expansive black-hole sprawl, before the closing salvo of Concubine's incisive fury and Last Light's climactic tumult. They're the sounds of peril, alienation and violence. And, as shown by the breathless, blood-and-sweat streaked bruisers spilling from the pit, they're still gospel passages in the book of extreme music.

Nate Newton came over all Incredible Hulk



Martyrdöd: it's pronounced 'ARRRGH!'

5 MINUTES WITH... JACOB BANNON

(CONVERGE, *VOCALS*)

WELCOME BACK TO THE UK! HOW DOES IT FEEL?

"It feels very… Downton Abbey? Peep Show? Benny Hill? (*Laughs*) I don't have any good pop-culture references! Benny Hill used to be on constantly when I was a kid, though! But yeah, it feels good! The people are fun, and the shows are fun. And it's much warmer than last time we were here! The last time we were here, I remember my pants actually froze from being outside! I had to thaw them on a space heater. Then they almost caught fire! But today has been significantly better."

WHAT WAS THE IMPETUS BEHIND DOING CLUB SHOWS RATHER THAN FESTIVALS THIS TIME AROUND?

"In the summer, we normally tend to come over for festivals because of 'festival season'. And we're one of the bands who get offers to play them. And we go, "Sure! Great!" But we try to mix in some club dates with bands we enjoy among the festival shows. Nate [Newton, bassist] has been talking about trying to bring along [adopts cod-Scandinavian accent] Martyrdöd for a while, and the timing worked out that they could do it. And Okkultokrati, as well! We're not doing any UK festivals this year, so these dates worked out great."

WAS IT A DELIBERATE DECISION TO HAVE A SCANDINAVIAN-THEMED SUPPORTING BILL?

"Like, 'Scandinavians are so in this year'? (*Laughs*) No, no. We've always looked at heavy music as a world thing, not just a U.S. thing. It's world music! Like, with bongos and shit (*laughs*)! But seriously, we listen to a lot of stuff and we've been trying to take out these guys for a while. It just worked out."

SO, WHO WOULD BE YOUR DREAM SUPPORT ACTS?

"Dolly Parton! And, uh, Spider-Man The Musical! And Cats! But, really, we'd just get together a bunch of people we really like hanging out with. Guys like [High On Fire's] Matt Pike, [Mastodon's] Brent Hinds and [NOFX's] Fat Mike. It'd just be a bunch of fun people."

'68

CRICKETERS, KINGSTON. 01.08.14

KKKK

THE CHARIOT FANS FALL FOR FRONTMAN'S NEW PROJECT

IF YOU'VE ever wondered why fans of '00s hardcore so often seem to be on a downer, it's because there's a big The Chariot-shaped hole in their hearts. Sigh. Tonight, though, mourners of the disbanded Atlanta quartet flood a Kingston loft space, awaiting the live return of vocalist Josh Scogin. Debuting his new project alongside drummer Michael McClellan, the frontman appears like a familiar, plaid-loving friend. '68 may be a two-man machine, but that doesn't stop the enigmatic pair possessing all the same heartache, aggression, sweat and impeccable skill of The Chariot. And with Josh poised on the drum kit, the twosome lock eyes for an onslaught of fresh material. "Here's a song you won't know," the singer says pensively. "I used to be in a band that basically ripped off Nirvana," he adds, proving some things never change with a cover of Tourette's. Pounding between every inch of floor space, on top of speakers and holding aloft his new wingman, Josh is still the man you'd want in your corner. So, get used to the apostrophe – this awkwardly named duo are here to stay.

JESSICA BRIDGEMAN

ANDREW O'NEILL

JACK DOME, EDINBURGH. 02.08.14

KKKK

BRITAIN'S MOST METAL COMIC ROCKS THE FRINGE

THINK SLAYER pits get wild? Try opening weekend at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. From jackbooted pageantry to politically charged magic shows and avant-garde sock puppetry, there's something pretentious for everyone. Then there's Andrew O'Neill. The cross-dressing vegan occultist might lose his standout strangeness on this smorgasbord of niche performers, but he's no less a twisted treat. Tonight, he's donned his electric guitar and battle jacket for a late-night History Of Heavy Metal. Don't know your brutal death from your blackened grind? Don't expect a detailed lesson. Instead, we get an impassioned, whistle-stop tour of all things heavy. Whether debunking Black Sabbath's working-class occultism ("Geezer Butler was an accountant! That's how he could afford the books!"), revelling at Judas Priest's "hiding-in-plain-sight" gay influence or paying homage to black metal progenitors Venom ("Geordies: what happens when Scots fuck Vikings!"), Andrew tempers his observational edge with fond, well-read fandom. And his slogan rules: If you don't love heavy metal, you're a dick!

SAM LAW

NO DEVOTION

PLUS: SAMOANS

O2 ACADEMY ISLINGTON, LONDON. 25.07.14

KKKK

ONE-TIME LOST' BOYS GET BACK IN THE RING, BLOODIED BUT UNBOWED

WORDS: IAN WINWOOD PHOTOS: CHRIS CASEY

GIVEN THE obvious significance of this, No Devotion's third-ever gig and first in the capital, the task facing tonight's support is some way south of being enviable. But while Cardiff-based quartet Samoans harvest little more than patient applause from tonight's sold-out throng, the controlled power and simmering intensity of their song-based sound suggests more triumphant nights than this ahead.

No Devotion arrive in front of a white screen upon which are projected abstract images more suggestive of an art installation than a headline set at Warped Tour. Even before a note of music has been played, it's evident that, in terms of style and execution, they stand a distance removed from the thing that the group's five musicians refer to as "the last band". Just as evident is that every person in attendance tonight knows the wreckage from which this band were formed, and as such the nine-song set is performed in an atmosphere of emotional intensity.

But the music on display is also intense – not to mention carefully considered, artfully arranged and, at times, more uplifting than advance word might have suggested (not least the magnificent 10,000 Summers). Occasionally, the onstage pronouncements from frontman and former Thursday bloke Geoff Rickly – a captivating presence, incidentally – err on the side of earnestness, and, as such, jar just a touch on the irreverent British palate (just one or two playful quips would add balance to this), but this is the only fault you'll find with the band's performance tonight.

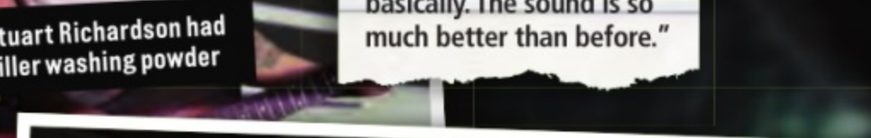
It all reduces down to a simple question: without the goodwill that's presently being extended in their direction, is No Devotion's music a thing of genuine worth? The answer is, yes; it absolutely is. These men do not want your sympathy; they want your attention. Which is good, because they're going to get it.

With the snooker match won, Mike Lewis went on to the gig

Hey, Geoff, Danzig called – he wants his hair back

Lee Gaze brought his pet ghost

Stuart Richardson had killer washing powder



"Shit, how does this one go again?"

WHAT DID YOU THINK?

NICK, MARLBOROUGH
"They have such a huge sound. It's probably a bigger sound than they had with the band they were in before, to be honest. The show was fantastic."

AMY, SWINDON
"I was totally blown away by the show, and I think they'll have success. I liked the instrumental they played [Death Rattle], during which I became quite emotional, actually."

BEX, LAVENHAM
"They've got what it takes. I've been with them through all of this, and to see them happy again is just amazing. And if they're happy, then I'm happy, basically. The sound is so much better than before."

REVIEWS

IN IT TO TWIN IT!

KKKKK = CLASSIC KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD KK = AVERAGE K = POOR

TWIN ATLANTIC

GREAT DIVIDE
(RED BULL)

KKKK

GLASGOW FOURSOME STRAP IN AND REACH FOR THE STARS

"I KNOW the whole world is watching now," crackled a male voice some 24 miles above the Earth on October 14, 2012. "I wish they could see what I can see. Sometimes you have to get up really high to see how small you are… I'm coming home now."

And with that, Austrian daredevil Felix Baumgartner fought every impulse in his body, took one step off his space pod's tiny podium and plummeted back to Earth, while millions of people watched like slack-jawed ants.

Four men from Glasgow – Sam McTrusty, Ross McNae, Barry McKenna and Craig Kneale – sat glued to their screens as they saw history unfold. Then, moments after Felix's historic space jump landing, one of Twin Atlantic's singles, Free, started playing, as requested by the man himself. From that moment, their name was firmly stamped into the freshly blown minds of millions of armchair thrill-seekers, setting them up for a giddy ascent of their own.

A lot has changed for the quartet since that historic day. As they pass their mid-20s, their new life experiences have informed their latest offering. So there are personal songs of love, loss, friendship, adventures and the struggles to stop life falling on its face when everything goes on hold in the pursuit of dreams. And perhaps because of this swell in global recognition, the band have gone all-out on Great Divide, their second full-length album. They've honed their songwriting chops and stripped away some of the complicated, obtuse flourishes that made up their 2009 debut mini-LP, Vivarium, and its 2011 full-length successor, Free. Instead, they've ushered in bolder, more direct songs, which conjure up romantic images of the four roaming massive stages in their own right, before a sea of fluttering Saltire.

Now, if you own a radio, you'll have heard the lead single, Heart And Soul, *many* times. It's a swaggering arena-pleaser-in-waiting, which earned them their first-ever Top 20 single. The second taster, Brothers And Sisters, was made to drain mobile phone batteries as they're waved around like tiny lanterns on their upcoming tour. And the achingly poignant Oceans will trick your eyes into believing there's a high pollen count.

But this is not to say Twin Atlantic have callously set fire to the house of music they've been building for the past seven years. Fall Into The Party and Actions That Echo are the most rambunctious tracks here, while Cell Mate's massive chorus is shot through with riffs that drip with buckets of attitude. Simply put, Great Divide is a tightly honed, 12-track collection that will make Twin Atlantic go off in your face like an arena-sized airbag. Brace for impact.

DOWNLOAD: Actions That Echo, Cell Mate, Oceans.
FOR FANS OF: Biffy Clyro, You Me At Six.

SIMON YOUNG

THE INSIDER — TALES FROM THE STUDIO...

SAM MCTRUSTY
(VOCALS/GUITAR)

DID YOU FEEL ANY PRESSURE WRITING YOUR SECOND ALBUM?
"I couldn't stop writing. We had so many songs. We were so focused on our own standards making Great Divide, so that was enough of a distraction away from the media attention we got after the Red Bull space jump. We were in a bubble [at Rockfield Studios, Wales], so it was easy to ignore it all."

WHEN HEART AND SOUL WAS RELEASED, DID YOU CHECK THE INTERNET TO SEE HOW YOUR FANS TOOK TO THE NEW DIRECTION?
"I couldn't escape it. Everyone's a critic. The rest of the guys would all tell me. I know there was a mixed response to Heart And Soul from people who liked the last couple of releases, but that made me weirdly happy that people would care so much that they'd get pissed off and question it online. I thought it was cool that people were passionate about it.

We'd rather confuse people than bore them."

SO, ARE YOU GUYS READY FOR WHAT HAPPENS NEXT? ALL SIGNS POINT TO BUSY...

"We always said we wanted to be a big band. Once an album is out there, it's not really yours anymore. Part of the thrill of making a record is not knowing what will happen next. You can't see the future – you just have to ride the wave of it all."

OPETH

PALE COMMUNION

(ROADRUNNER)

KKKK

WIDDLY SWEDISH PROG TITANS TURN IT UP TO (ALBUM NUMBER) 11

HERITAGE, OPETH'S 2011 album, seemed to splay opinion like the roots of the mighty tree adorning its cover. What some considered the latest thrilling chapter from a band characterised by boundless exploration, others deemed a shark-vaulting exercise in patience-testing prog. And while you could certainly argue there's truth to both arguments, it would be far easier to gift both camps a copy of Pale Communion – an album that could well unite them. Those expecting another stroll through Blackwater Park are going to be disappointed, although lead single Cusp Of Eternity's moody riff does suggest their undercurrent of darkness is still there. Meanwhile, Elysian Woes and River prove that, whatever your favourite version of Opeth, they possess an embarrassment of riches when it comes to gorgeous melodies. For that reason and more, Pale Communion is worthy of worship.

DOWNLOAD: River.

FOR FANS OF: Porcupine Tree, King Crimson, Tool.

JAMES HICKIE

MACHINAE SUPREMACY

PHANTOM SHADOW

(SPINEFARM)

KK

PROGGY SWEDES RELIVE VIDEO GAME YOUTH

IF YOU'RE old enough to remember the first wave of video game 'computers' – the ZX Spectrum and Commodore 64 of the early 1980s – you'll recall the infuriating synthesised music they generated. Obviously no self-respecting metal band would incorporate such sounds into their music, right? Wrong. Machinae Supremacy sully an initially promising prog-metal opus with plenty of this retrospective silliness, their decently melodic Dream Theater-styled epics quickly running the risk of losing credibility. It's a concept album – something to do with how technology has conflicted with our humanity. Ironically, it's technology from another era that has conflicted with Machinae Supremacy here.

DOWNLOAD: Renegades.

FOR FANS OF: Dream Theater, Opeth, Queensrÿche.

STEVE BEEBEE

SIRENS

RESISTANT TO CHANGE / DESTINED TO FAIL

(SELF-RELEASED)

KKKK

SAVAGE SECOND FROM MIDLAND METALLERS

PREPARE YOURSELF, because Sirens don't mess around. Having honed their chops with endless touring, these Brummie n00bs give their all on this killer EP of melodic metal that's tighter than Michael Starr's kecks. Opening track Notches goes straight for the jugular with pummelling rhythms and searing vocals, while Bad Blood's spirited call-and-response is cut from the same cloth as Bring Me The Horizon. Sirens' heaviness is balanced by atmospheric, melodic breaks, proving they have more up their sleeves than sheer aggression. Although there's plenty of that to go around as well. Keep an ear out for Sirens – you'll want to hear them when they go off.

DOWNLOAD: Bad Blood.

FOR FANS OF: Dead Harts, Bring Me The Horizon.

JAMES MACKINNON

CALLING ALL CARS

RAISE THE PEOPLE

(COOKING VINYL)

KKK

MELBOURNE TRIO DON'T QUITE REACH FULL FORCE

THAT'S A fierce-looking rhino on the front of Calling All Cars' album cover, eh? It's just a shame that what's inside Raise The People isn't nearly as threatening as what's on the outside. In fact, it's arguably the band's softest release to date. But that's not to say the darkness-loving Aussie threesome aren't effective. In fact, at their best (Standing In The Ocean's brilliant chorus, or the dreamy Werewolves), Calling All Cars are as cool as a frozen rhino horn. The problem, really, is that Raise The People maintains a high tempo, but never properly reaches a stampede. It's alright, but Calling All Cars don't quite unleash the beast they promise to with that sleeve.

DOWNLOAD: Werewolves, Standing In The Ocean.

FOR FANS OF: Dead Letter Circus, Karnivool.

EMILY CARTER

KLASSIC ALBUM!

A ROCK GEM FROM THE K! VAULTS...

MACHINE HEAD

BURN MY EYES

(ROADRUNNER)

WILL THIS BURN MY EARS?
It might not burn them, but it'll stomp on them like a bear in lead diving boots, tap-dancing on the side of your head.

UM, OKAY. IS THAT SOME BIZARRE WAY OF SAYING, 'IT'S HEAVY'?
You got us. In 1994, when this came out, metal was getting *really* heavy. Pantera scored a Number One U.S. album with Far Beyond Driven, and Korn were about to invent nu-metal. In the midst of all this, Machine Head's rhythmic, sledgehammer riffs, delivered with a soupçon of Slayer's thrashing intensity, made perfect sense.

ANY TRACKS IN PARTICULAR I SHOULD LOOK OUT FOR?
If you haven't heard opener Davidian, with its iconic '*Let freedom ring with a shotgun blast*' refrain, you're doing metal wrong. This is a bone-crunching album throughout, however, infused with revolutionary anger, sociopolitical lyrics and a nonstop onslaught of thunderous rhythms and skull-cracking riffs.

COOL. BUT THEN WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?
Well, BME paved the way for a new wave of American metal bands such as Lamb Of God and Killswitch Engage. It also provided a platform for frontman Robb Flynn to spend the next 20 years demanding that people "tear shit up". You heard him…

HEAR IT IN FULL! Kerrang! Radio play the whole album at 10pm, August 14

WORDS: PAUL TRAVERS

THE KERRANG! STEREO

THE 10 NEW ROCK TRACKS MELTING OUR EARS!

1 THE NEGATIVE ONE
SLIPKNOT
A week on, this is still searing our ears. Welcome back!

2 .WEIGHTED.
FRNKIERO ANDTHE CELLABRATION
We weighted ages for this!

3 EVIL LIKE A KNIFE
MIDNIGHT
"It's like listening to Motörhead, Venom, Black Flag and Bathory AT THE SAME TIME!"
NICK RUSKELL, ASSOCIATE EDITOR

4 REBELLION
LINKIN PARK
The Hunting Party is LP's heaviest album. Exhibit A…

5 BLACK WIDOW
THE ONE HUNDRED
As in the Iggy Azalea song. This is a thing.

6 STARGAZER
RX BANDITS
"This song in a word? Complex and sexy. No, wait… Complexy."
JOHN LONGBOTTOM NEWS / ONLINE EDITOR

7 MIST
PROTEST THE HERO
Careful, looks like you almost 'mist' this. Har-har!

8 FALSE IDOLS
HACKTIVIST
Metalrapcrunkdjent. Not a catchy term. But a loud one.

9 THE SUMMER CITIZEN
"All the feels from this week's Introducing stars!"
LAURA RICHARDSON, SENIOR DESIGNER / SPECIAL PROJECTS EDITOR

10 DANSE MACABRE
PURSON
Psych oddness for when you didn't wear a hat in the sun.

TUATARA

UNDERWORLD
(SUNYATA)

KKKK

POST-ROCK JAZZ-FUNK INSTRUMENTALS, ANYONE?

TUATARA AIN'T taking their instrumental band status lightly. On Underworld you'll hear this collective cavorting with Tibetan oboes, Peruvian ocarinas, Clavinets, Balinese gamelans, Indian sitars, accordions, congas, Batá drums and the 'Aztec kazoo'. (Okay, we made that last one up). And the reason behind all of this experimentation? Simple: they're trying to evoke the out-of-body sensations of the underworld. It comes pretty close, especially via their mellow moments (Descension, She Dreams Of Snow) and some help from Pearl Jam's Mike McCready on guitar. Yes, in places the jams get a bit too funky (Streetwalkin'), but even these missteps don't disrupt the haze you enter elsewhere. It all means that Tuatara are guaranteed to pry your third eye wide open.
DOWNLOAD: Descension.
FOR FANS OF: Purson, Wardruna.

GEORGE GARNER

BLACKLIST ROYALS

DIE YOUNG WITH ME
(UNIVERSAL/KRIAN)

KKK

SEPIA-TINGED FOLK-ROCK WITH A BIG HEART

PULL UP a seat, because Nashville's Blacklist Royals are a band with a story to tell. Sounding as though they grew up down the street from The Gaslight Anthem, the band deliver white-picket-fence, bluesy rock'n'roll anthems plated up with a big ol' dollop of rose-tinted nostalgia. But peel back the record's soft Americana skin and you'll find real sentiment within. The story of drummer – and twin brother to frontman Nat – Rob Rufus' cancer diagnosis aged just 17 serves as the lyrical backbone (and, you'll note, inspiration for the title), and gives the band's second album a gentle poignancy. One that'll see Blacklist Royals' nostalgic rock stick with you further than the summer months.
DOWNLOAD: Twenty Six And Gone.
FOR FANS OF: The Gaslight Anthem, Deaf Havana.

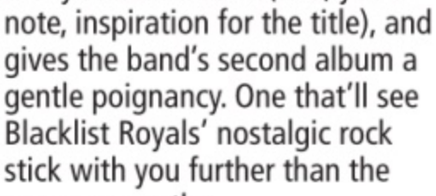
TOM SHEPHERD

ISLANDER

VIOLENCE & DESTRUCTION
(VICTORY)

KKKK

THIS SOUTH CAROLINA MOB LIKE DEFTONES, THEN…



THERE'S NOTHING wrong with wanting to imitate your idols. And, as Islander frontman Mikey Carvajal croons, '*I wanna be someone more like you*', on Coconut Dracula – Violence & Destruction's epic highlight – he's clearly got one dude on his mind: Chino Moreno. Thankfully, the SoCal nu-metallers pay homage to Deftones in a slick manner (Violence & Destruction, The Sadness Of Graves). And when they dip their toes in heavier territories, like on Criminal, they're an even more formidable force. It's undeniable, then, that Islander are heading in the same direction as their superb metal counterparts: upward.
DOWNLOAD: Coconut Dracula.
FOR FANS OF: Deftones, P.O.D..

EMILY CARTER

THE HAUNTED

EXIT WOUNDS
(CENTURY MEDIA)

KKKK

GOTHENBURG THRASH MANIACS SAVAGELY RESHUFFLE THE DECK

THE HAUNTED don't fuck about. Haemorrhaging three core members, most bands would fold. These unstoppable Swedes, however, simply spun the revolving door. Re-enlisting vocalist Marco Aro, and drummer Adrian Erlandsson from 2000's classic Made Me Do It album (along with Six Feet Under axeman Ola Englund), they've addressed their eulogisers with this snarling, unsubtly-titled eighth LP. As defiant as ever, Exit Wounds owns

MAYBESHEWILL

FAIR YOUTH
(SUPERBALL)

KKK

WHO NEEDS WORDS WITH INSTRUMENTALS LIKE THESE?

IT TAKES some serious balls to make a record without any vocals. And then expect people to embrace it. But it's a strategy that's worked for Maybeshewill. In the wake of face-melting riffs, the musicianship bestowed by these Leicester instrumentalists is enough to build dreams on. With their DIY ethos intact, the quintet's fourth studio album soundtracks their lengthy time on the road. It's evident in the nostalgic electro of In Amber, the momentous peaks and troughs of All Things Transient, and the restful, calming violins of Asiatic. Sure, it's hard to tell some of the more sombre tracks apart (Waking Life and Permanence), but if it's complex, squishy emotions you're after, Maybeshewill are definitely speaking your language.
DOWNLOAD: In Amber.
FOR FANS OF: Mogwai, 65daysofstatic, Slint.

JESSICA BRIDGEMAN

SERPENT VENOM

OF THINGS SEEN & UNSEEN
(THE CHURCH WITHIN)

KKKK

BRIT DOOMSTERS SLITHER BACK OUT OF THE SHADOWS

AS OLD Freddie Nietzsche said, if you stare into the abyss, the abyss will stare back into you. You'll experience something similar listening to this superb second offering from London doom merchants Serpent Venom. Conjuring a funereal, inky darkness in the tradition of Black Sabbath and doom overlords Cathedral, these songs weigh down on you with the heft of tombstones doused in midnight shadow. The Lords Of Life has nightmare psychedelia, while the occult despair of Death Throes At Dawn is evil, and Pilgrims Of The Sun is a suffocating, near-10-minute epic that's like drowning in concrete. It's a crushing record that envelops like creeping poison. Once Serpent Venom bite, you'll be doomed forever.
DOWNLOAD: The Lords Of Life, Let Them Starve.
FOR FANS OF: Black Sabbath, Saint Vitus, Cathedral.

SAM LAW

the frenzied middle-ground between Gothenburg melo-death and testosterone-surging thrash. Packed with grinning violence, by the time Testament's Chuck Billy barges in on the brilliant Trend Killer you'll likely already have smashed some windows and head-butted a passer-by. So, then, The Haunted have 'made us do it' all over again.
DOWNLOAD: Trend Killer.
FOR FANS OF: At The Gates, In Flames, Testament.

SAM LAW

THE KUT

MAKE UP
(CRIMINAL)

KKK

TRASHY SCUZZ ROCK THAT NEEDS A LITTLE MORE SCUZZ

THE SOUND of fuzzy, basement-dwelling punk is always a welcome one, but the fine art of sloppy perfection isn't as easy as it sounds. Such is the case with London all-girl 'Basement Rock' (their words) trio The Kut. Though the tunes are very much present on this EP, there's a feeling the oven's been opened too early here. The cake's tasty, but it would've been delicious if it was baked just a little longer. Turn everything up 10 per cent, harshen the buzzsaw guitars, and this'd be a real treat. On the plus side, despite the loud Courtney Love references, they're more than just Hole II. Mario has an Against Me! strut to the intro, while DMA is a pounding gem. And while there's only so much you can do with a fuzzed-up riff, The Kut work to those limits with style. Just turn it up next time.
DOWNLOAD: DMA, Mario.
FOR FANS OF: Hole, Girlschool.

JODIE-MAE FINCH

ANATOMY OF A ROCKSTAR

HERMAN LI, DRAGONFORCE

THIS IS A MERE TWO PER CENT OF HERMAN'S GUITAR COLLECTION IN THIS PICTURE. BUT THEY DON'T STOP HIM BEING "A COMPUTER NERD"...

THE GUITAR I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT IS...

"My own signature model Ibanez. Since I was a kid and started playing the guitar, I dreamed about having my own signature model. If you buy one in the shop, it's exactly the same as the one I play. Even though I've got 100 guitars, I pretty much play the same one all the time. It's completely beaten up – I stage-dive with it, I kick it, I even jumped in a jacuzzi with it earlier this year, playing solos in the water. Was I electrocuted? No, it's wireless, so it was safe, but I destroyed some of the electronics."

THE FOOD I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT IS...

"Chinese food. It's difficult to get on the road, though – I never get Chinese food on tour, unless it's from [the local] Chinatown, 'cause it's kinda shit. I'm not Gordon Ramsay, but I know how to cook – I don't have a wife or girlfriend to cook for me, so I do it myself..."

THE THING I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT ON THE ROAD IS...

"My laptop. I'm a computer nerd. Everyone has one now, but I got one *way* before everybody else. I've been doing computer stuff for years. Have laptops replaced bad behaviour when bands are on the road? Well, no-one is doing work on their laptop or phone, they're just chatting up girls. But I'm a nerd, so I don't care about such things."

THE TV SHOW I'M OBSESSED WITH IS...

"Homeland. The first series was great. I've got them all recorded. I have to wait until I get on a plane to watch it, 'cause I don't waste time watching TV unless I can't practise or do anything, so it has to be on a plane. I'm not obsessed with conspiracy theories, but I have an open mind. My brain is like a computer processor: I don't come to a decision unless I have all the information."

THE MOST EXPENSIVE THING I OWN IS...

"Apart from my house? To be honest, everything depreciates [in value], so probably my guitars. Guitars don't really depreciate and, the more you play one, if you're kinda known, it'll go up in value."

THE ALBUM I LOVE MORE THAN ANY OTHER IS...

"Joe Satriani's Flying In A Blue Dream [1989]. That made a big difference in how I looked at the guitar. It wasn't an instrument anymore – it became a form of art. You can do loads on the guitar: you can play normally, make weird noises... it changed my whole outlook."

THE GADGET I'M ADDICTED TO IS...

"The PS Vita, the portable PlayStation. I don't even like playing it – I just like to look at it and touch it for some really strange, nerdy reason! I'm more into hardware than software – I admire the tech they put behind these things."

THE MOVIE THAT CHANGED MY LIFE IS...

"Aliens [1986]. I remember seeing it as a kid. I've bought the tape, the DVD *and* Blu-ray. The original cinema release might have been just for action, but the director's cut has deeper emotional parts in it."

WORDS: MARK SUTHERLAND PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

GIGS

SETS TIGHTER THAN GUSTAV'S TROUSERS

YOUNG GUNS

WE CAN FEEL A WARM-UP SHOW IN OUR BONES, BONES, BONES!

HEY, GUSTAV. YOU PLAYED ARENAS WITH BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE LAST YEAR – WILL YOU BE ABLE TO FIT INTO THESE SMALL VENUES?
GUSTAV WOOD (*VOCALS*): "Of course, they're what we're used to! We started this band playing youth centres to two or three people and we've built it in the correct, organic way. I sound like a bit of a wanker when I say this, but whenever we played a smaller show, I felt like we were playing arenas. The intimacy is amazing, but it should feel life-affirming and larger than where you are."

LIFE-AFFIRMINGNESS ASIDE, WILL YOU BE PLAYING NEW SONGS?
"Yeah! We're going to be doing what we can to prepare for Reading & Leeds, but we're going to play as much new material as we can. It's going to be great! I want to meet every person in those rooms and go, 'Tell me what you think [of the new songs]! Don't lie! In fact, *do* lie…'"

YOU MADE SPECIAL ENGLAND/YOUNG GUNS T-SHIRTS FOR THE WORLD CUP. AFTER THEIR EARLY EXIT, WILL YOU BE FLOGGING THEM CHEAP ON TOUR?
"Yeah! That went fucking well, didn't it? We're going to forget that ever happened. We just thought those shirts would be a laugh and they actually did pretty well… before we went out! Will I still wear the shirt? Yeah… in the privacy of my own home!"

SUPPORT:
BLITZ KIDS, ONLY RIVALS

DATES: Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms August 19, Gloucester Guildhall 20.

WORDS: MARK SUTHERLAND PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

TICKETS AND INFO FOR ALL THESE GIGS ARE AVAILABLE FROM:

ALOUD.COM
buy your tickets from www.aloud.com

KERRANG! DAY
AUGUST 13

CARDIFF: Emily's Army

BUCKLEY AGNOSTIC FRONT (Tivoli)
CARDIFF EMILY'S ARMY, MATT GROCOTT & THE SHRIVES, WASTERS (Undertone)
GUILDFORD DZ DEATHRAYS (Boileroom)
LONDON SKELETONWITCH, HAVOK (Barfly, Camden)
LONDON DEEZ NUTS, TRC, COUNTING DAYS (Borderline)
LONDON SLINT (Electric)
LONDON FINCH, ONLY RIVALS (Underworld, Camden)
MANCHESTER AMEN (Sound Control)
MANCHESTER SIRENS & SAILORS, TO KILL ACHILLES, ARCHETYPE (Sound Control)
MILTON KEYNES HELLYEAH, PROTAFIELD (Craufurd Arms)
NEWCASTLE POISON IDEA (Think Tank?)
SOUTHAMPTON SKAM (King Billys)
WOLVERHAMPTON REEL BIG FISH, THE MAGNUS PUTO (Slade Rooms)

THURSDAY
AUGUST 14

LONDON: Amen

CROYDON SIRENS & SAILORS, TO KILL ACHILLES, ARCHETYPE (Scream Lounge)
GLASGOW POISON IDEA (Audio)
KENT ROB LYNCH, OXYGEN THIEF, CHAS PALMER-

TAKING BACK SUNDAY

As mic-swinging frontman Adam Lazzara knows, things can go wrong at festivals. Here are three things to watch out for at Merthyr Rock…

SOMEBODY GETTING KNOCKED OUT
"I famously knocked out our old bass player, Matt [Rubano], at the Give It A Name festival – which I *still* feel terrible about. I was throwing my mic, and it wasn't until I looked back and saw him laid out on the ground that I knew what I had done! But, he made it through the set and then we took him to the hospital – where we first encountered your *amazing* free healthcare system!"

A BAND MISSING THEIR OWN SET
"We were playing Soundwave in Australia, and everyone flies between the cities, and our flight got delayed. We were on early in the day, so we got off the plane, into a car, and literally went from the car onto the stage and into the first song! It felt like taking a test you haven't studied for – it was just insane!"

A DRUM KIT GETTING A PAINT JOB
"We were playing Reading and our drummer had cut his hand the night before. It hadn't had time to heal, so it just opened more, and he played through it, but blood was flying *everywhere*! The top of his snare drum literally had this little pool of blood on it, and we definitely looked like we were a far darker, tougher band than the music we played suggested!"

LINE-UP:
TALKING BACK SUNDAY, REEL BIG FISH, ANTI-FLAG, THE BLACKOUT, LOSTALONE AND LOADS MORE!

DATE: Merthyr Tydfil Cyfarthfa Castle August 17.

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR

WILLIAMS, BAD IDEAS, THE LION & THE WOLF (Hevy Festival @ Port Lympne Wild Animal Park)
KINGSTON DZ DEATHRAYS (New Slang)
LEEDS SLINT (Cockpit)
LONDON BLOODY KNEES (Monarch, Camden)
LONDON AMEN, GENERATION GRAVEYARD (Underworld, Camden)
NEWCASTLE AGNOSTIC FRONT (Think Tank?)
SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD SKAM (Diamond)

FRIDAY
AUGUST 15

CORBY THE DEFILED, MY RUIN (Zombie Hut)
DUBLIN POISON IDEA (Fibber Magees)
EDINBURGH AGNOSTIC FRONT (Bannerman's Bar)
GLASGOW SLINT (Arches)
KENT FINCH, SILVERSTEIN, KVELERTAK, CRIME IN STEREO, THREE TRAPPED TIGERS, MAYBESHEWILL, INVSN, APOLOGIES, I HAVE NONE, DEEZ NUTS, FEED THE RHINO, BRUTALITY WILL PREVAIL, TEXAS IN JULY, TRC, HEART IN HAND, OATHBREAKER, THE ONE HUNDRED, TESSERACT, AMENRA, IWRESTLEDABEARONCE, DEVIL SOLD HIS SOUL, THE SAFETY FIRE, EMPIRE, COUNTING DAYS, TERRAFORM (Hevy Festival @ Port Lympne Wild Animal Park)
LONDON EMILY'S ARMY, MATT GROCOTT & THE SHRIVES, WASTERS (Garage, Highbury)
LONDON ELECTRIC WIZARD, DEAFHEAVEN, BIG UPS, ICEAGE (Jabberwocky @ Excel Centre)
MANCHESTER HELLYEAH, PROTAFIELD (Sound Control)
OXFORD KARMA TO BURN (O2 Academy2 Oxford)
SWANSEA PHIL CAMPBELL'S ALL STARR BAND (Student Union)
WORCESTER THE MERCY HOUSE (Marr's Bar)
WORKINGTON SKAM (Lounge 41)

SATURDAY
AUGUST 16

LONDON: LostAlone

BRIDGWATER NATIVES, GLAMOUR OF THE KILL, THE COMPUTERS, VERSES, THE FIRST, TELLISON, WOAHNOWS, BRAWLERS, IDIOM, FALLING RED, DEAD!, SAMOANS (Bridgewater & Albion RFC)
BRISTOL POISON IDEA (Exchange)
CARDIFF KARMA TO BURN (Moon Club)
CRICKHOWELL SLINT (Green Man Festival)
GLASGOW SKAM (Stereo)
HEREFORD DZ DEATHRAYS (Jailhouse)
KENT THE VANDALS, REEL BIG FISH, ANTI-FLAG, CAPDOWN, ME VS HERO, SAVE YOUR BREATH, MOOSE BLOOD, THE MURDERBURGERS, STRUCTURES, THE OCEAN, '68, HEIGHTS, EMPRESS AD, DEAD HARTS, ACRES, THE CATHARSIS, STAMPIN' GROUND, PAY NO RESPECT, POLAR, WORTHWHILE, THE HELL, SHOW YOUR TEETH, LET'S TALK DAGGERS (Hevy Festival @ Port Lympne Wild Animal Park)
LONDON WILLIAM CONTROL, LOSTALONE (Borderline)
LONDON ELECTRIC WIZARD, DEAFHEAVEN, BIG UPS, ICEAGE (Jabberwocky @ Excel Centre)
LONDON THE WYTCHES, THE GROWLERS (Oslo)
NOTTINGHAM EMILY'S ARMY, MATT GROCOTT & THE SHRIVES, WASTERS (Maze)
SOUTHAMPTON '68 (Avondale House)
WAKEFIELD PHIL CAMPBELL'S ALL STARR BAND (Warehouse)
WOLVERHAMPTON HELLYEAH, PROTAFIELD (Slade Rooms)
YORK AGNOSTIC FRONT (Fibbers)

SUNDAY
AUGUST 17

BELFAST BIFFY CLYRO, TWIN ATLANTIC, LITTLE MATADOR (Belsonic Festival @ Custom House Square)
BRISTOL THE WYTCHES, THE GROWLERS (Fleece)
CHESTER PHIL CAMPBELL'S ALL STARR BAND (Live Rooms)
LEICESTER CABIN BOY JUMPED SHIP, ICONS, ASCEND THE SKIES, ROADS TO NOWHERE (Shed)
LONDON AGNOSTIC FRONT, CONFLICT, POISON IDEA, THE BUSINESS (City Invasion @ Forum, Kentish Town)
LONDON '68, BABY GODZILLA (Garage, Highbury)
LONDON HELLYEAH, PROTAFIELD (Underworld, Camden)
MANCHESTER EMILY'S ARMY, MATT GROCOTT & THE SHRIVES, WASTERS (Sound Control)
MANSFIELD F.O.E.S (Intake)
MERTHYR TYDFIL TAKING BACK SUNDAY, REEL BIG FISH, ANTI-FLAG, THE BLACKOUT, BLITZ KIDS, LOSTALONE, FEED THE RHINO, THE ONE HUNDRED, COLT 45, SAVE YOUR BREATH, EN GARDE, CONTINENTS, WHEN WE WERE WOLVES, FALLING WITH STYLE, REAPER IN SICILY, BREATHE IN THE SILENCE (Merthyr Rock @ Cyfarthfa Castle)
SOUTHAMPTON KARMA TO BURN (Joiners)

MONDAY
AUGUST 18

PORTSMOUTH: Karma To Burn

BELFAST SLINT (Limelight)
LIVERPOOL THE WYTCHES, THE GROWLERS (Kazimier)
LONDON DZ DEATHRAYS (Shackwell Arms)
PORTSMOUTH KARMA TO BURN (Wedgewood Rooms)

TUESDAY
AUGUST 19

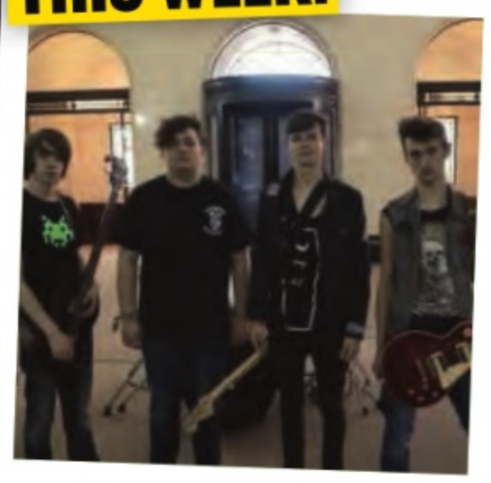
OXFORD: Tonight Alive

BRIGHTON THE GROWLERS, FAT WHITE FAMILY, THE WYTCHES (Concorde 2)
BRIGHTON DZ DEATHRAYS (Sticky Mike's Frog Bar)
DUBLIN SLINT (Button Factory)
MANCHESTER KARMA TO BURN (Deaf Institute)
OXFORD TONIGHT ALIVE (O2 Academy2 Oxford)
PORTSMOUTH YOUNG GUNS, BLITZ KIDS, ONLY RIVALS (Wedgewood Rooms)

LOCAL HEROES

SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON THE UK'S UNSIGNED TALENT!

THIS WEEK!



A PROMISE TO FORGET

FROM: Birmingham.
WE ARE: Tim Castle (vocals/guitar), Brad Stinton (vocals/bass), Tom Bradley (guitar), John Fleetwood (drums).
FAVOURITE BANDS: Four Year Strong, Framing Hanley, The Story So Far, Fall Out Boy, Pierce The Veil.
WE SOUND LIKE...: "Mallory Knox on steroids. We are the kings of unexpected breakdowns and the soundtrack to every superhero movie!"
PEOPLE SHOULD CHECK US OUT 'CAUSE...: "We once did a gig in a bank because we're thrifty! All of us are massive comic book fans, too. We've played gigs dressed up as The Avengers! If this band were an animal, we would be a wolverine!"
CATCH US AT: Birmingham Rainbow September 4.
MORE INFO AT: Facebook.com/apromisetoforget

ARE YOU AND YOUR BANDMATES LOCAL HEROES? IF SO, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL YOUR ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS ABOVE TO GIGS@KERRANG.COM, AND DON'T FORGET TO ATTACH A PHOTO OF YOUR BAND. SIMPLY PUT 'LOCAL HEROES' AND YOUR BAND NAME IN THE SUBJECT HEADER AND YOU COULD BE APPEARING IN THIS VERY SLOT VERY SOON...

GO SEE! BIFFY CLYRO

SUPPORT: TWIN ATLANTIC, LITTLE MATADOR.
DATE: BELFAST BELSONIC FESTIVAL @ CUSTOM HOUSE SQUARE AUGUST 17.

We've been wondering why the Scottish trio have avoided the big three this year (Download, Sonisphere and Reading & Leeds), and we've come to the assumption that it's because they're sick of getting their posh boots muddy. They are happy, however, to play Belsonic festival this week, which takes place in the middle of a city, on concrete. So, if you want the full festival experience, you'd better nip down to Homebase and buy yourself a bag of topsoil. Then you can roll around in it whilst you listen to Biffy play choice cuts from their new B-sides album, Similarities. Oh, and Twin Atlantic are playing, too! It's going to be awesomeeeee!

For free inclusion, e-mail your gig/festival details to: Gigs@kerrang.com.
Please include: 1. **DATE** 2. **CITY** 3. **VENUE** 4. **BAND** (+band genre) 5. **SUPPORT BANDS** or **FESTIVAL INFO.** No attachments!
Note: If any of these details are missing, listing will not be included.
Deadline is 15 days previous to Kerrang! issue dates.

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

JUST ANNOUNCED!

'BOUT TO GET SWEATY: Crossfaith

...AND YOU WILL KNOW US BY THE TRAIL OF DEAD
Glasgow Art School November 14, Coventry Kasbah 15, Manchester Ruby Lounge 16, London Camden Dingwalls 17.

CHIMAIRA
Southampton Talking Heads October 20, London Camden Underworld 21, Bristol Fleece 22, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 23, Manchester Sound Control 24, Glasgow Ivory Blacks 25, Newcastle Cluny 26, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 27. Support: Incite.

CROSSFAITH
Kingston Fighting Cocks August 20. Support: The One Hundred.

THE DEFILED
Corby Zombie Hut August 15. Support: My Ruin.

ELECTRIC MARY
Northern Ireland Diamond Rock Club November 7, Nottingham Rock City 8, Manchester Ruby Lounge 9, Wolverhampton Robin II 10, York Fibbers 12, London Borderline 13, Wales HRH Fest 14, Liverpool Komax 15, Norwich Waterfront 17, Sheffield Greystone 18.

GODFLESH
Brighton Haunt December 9, London Highbury Garage 10, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 11, Manchester Sound Control 12, Glasgow Art School 13.

LIT
Cardiff Solus II November 13, Norwich Waterfront 14, Sheffield Corporation 15, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 16, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 17, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 19, Brighton Haunt 20, Southampton 1865 21, London Brooklyn Bowl 22, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 23. Support: Army Of Freshmen, Hey Vanity.

MAN OVERBOARD
London Camden Underworld November 13, Leicester Scholar Bar 14, Manchester Pinky Swear Festival @ NQ Live 15, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 16, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 17, Newcastle Think Tank 18, Glasgow Audio 19, Leeds Cockpit 20, Bristol Exchange 21, Liverpool East Village Arts Centre Loft 22, Dublin Fibber Magees 24, Belfast Sub Bar 25. Support: Hostage Calm, Front Porch Step, Roam.

MOTIONLESS IN WHITE / LACUNA COIL
Bristol Anson Rooms October 31, London Kentish Town Forum November 1, O2 ABC Glasgow 2, Manchester Ritz 4, Birmingham Institute 5.

MY EXTRAORDINARY
Glasgow Ivory Blacks September 24, Newcastle Think Tank? 25, Manchester FAC251 26, London Highbury Garage (upstairs) 27, Birmingham Flapper 28.

THRESHOLD
London O2 Academy Islington November 20, Chester Live Rooms 21.

WAR OF AGES
Derby Hairy Dog September 3, London Camden Underworld 4.

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS
SUPPORT: TBC

DATES: London Camden Underworld August 21.

Tickets for all K! gigs are available from:
ALOUD.COM
buy your tickets from www.aloud.com

#STANDFORSOMETHING
Edinburgh Cabaret Voltaire October 4: Funeral For A Friend. Liverpool Shipping Forecast October 25: We Are The Ocean. Newcastle Cluny II December 6: Tonight Alive.

5 SECONDS OF SUMMER
Dublin O2 May 28, 2015, Belfast Odyssey Arena 30, Glasgow SSE Hydro June 1, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 2, Leeds First Direct Arena 3, Birmingham NIA 5, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 7, Manchester Phones 4u Arena 9, London SSE Arena Wembley 12 – 13.

ACCEPT
London Kentish Town Forum November 27.

A DAY TO REMEMBER
Cardiff Arena August 26.

AGAINST ME!
Bristol Bierkeller November 13, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 14, Glasgow King Tut's 15, Leeds Cockpit 16, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 17, Manchester Academy II 18, London Camden Electric Ballroom 19.

AGNOSTIC FRONT
Buckley Tivoli August 13, Newcastle Think Tank? 14, Edinburgh Bannermans 15, York Fibbers 16.

AIRBOURNE
Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms August 26, Brighton Concorde 27, London Highbury Garage 28.

ALL TIME LOW
London SSE Arena Wembley March 20, 2015.

THE AMITY AFFLICTION
Birmingham Institute Temple November 28, Glasgow Classic Grand 29, Manchester Gorilla 30, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach December 1, London O2 Academy Islington 2. Support: Buried In Verona, Heart In Hand, Napoleon.

ANATHEMA
O2 ABC2 Glasgow September 21, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 22, Manchester Academy III 23, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 25, London Camden KOKO 26, Bristol Thekla 27, Southampton Talking Heads 28.

ASKING ALEXANDRIA
Norwich UEA October 22, Nottingham Rock City 23, O2 Academy Newcastle 24, Edinburgh Picture House 26, Glasgow Barrowland 27, Manchester Academy 31, O2 Academy Leeds November 1, Cardiff Great Hall 2, O2 Academy Bristol 4, O2 Guildhall Southampton 5, London Roundhouse 6, O2 Academy Birmingham 7, Brighton Dome 9. Support: The Ghost Inside, Crown The Empire, Secrets.

AT THE GATES
London Kentish Town Forum December 4, Manchester Academy II 5, Glasgow Garage 6, O2 Academy Birmingham 7, Cardiff University Solus 8. Support: Triptykon, Morbus Chron.

BEARTOOTH
London Borderline September 16, O2 Academy3 Birmingham 17, Glasgow Cathouse 18, Manchester Roadhouse 19, Leeds Cockpit II 20. Support: Dead Harts, Climates.

BEHEMOTH
London Kentish Town Forum December 9, O2 ABC Glasgow 10, Dublin Academy 11, O2 Academy Birmingham 12, Manchester Academy 13. Support: Decapitated, Grand Magus, Winterfylleth.

BLACKBERRY SMOKE
Dublin Academy October 15, O2 ABC Glasgow 16, Manchester Ritz 17, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 19, Cambridge Junction 21, Birmingham Institute 22.

BLACK STONE CHERRY
Glasgow SSE Hydro October 26, Sheffield Motorpoint Arena 27, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 28, Birmingham LG Arena 30, Manchester Phones 4u Arena 31, London SSE Arena Wembley November 1. Support: Airbourne, Theory Of A Deadman.

BLACK VEIL BRIDES
Cardiff University October 3, London O2 Academy Brixton 4, O2 Guildhall Southampton 5, O2 Academy Birmingham 7, Nottingham Rock City 8, Norwich UEA 9, Exeter Great Hall 11, O2 Apollo Manchester 12, O2 Academy Newcastle 13, Dublin Olympia 15, Glasgow Barrowlands 16, O2 Academy Leeds 17.

BLITZ KIDS
Plymouth White Rabbit September 30, Southampton Talking Heads October 1, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 2, Nottingham Basement 3, Manchester Sound Control 4, Glasgow Cathouse 5, Liverpool East Village Arts Club 6, Leeds Cockpit 7, London Highbury Garage 9, Birmingham Asylum 10. Support: Natives, Scholars.

BLUES PILLS
Bristol Fleece November 10, Birmingham Oobleck 11, Manchester Star & Garter 12, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 14, Glasgow Audio 16, London Dome 18.

BREAKOUT FESTIVAL 2014
Line-up: Skindred, Funeral For A Friend, The Blackout, Betraying The Martyrs, InMe, Glamour Of The Kill, Silent Screams, The Qemists, Despite My Deepest Fear, Idiom. Brighton Racecourse September 27.

BRING ME THE HORIZON
London SSE Arena Wembley December 5.

BURY TOMORROW
Birmingham Institute October 18, Glasgow Garage 19, Manchester Academy II 20, Leeds Cockpit 21, Bristol Bierkeller 22, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 23, London Camden KOKO 24. Support: Hands Like Houses.

CHARLIE SIMPSON
London Camden Roundhouse October 14.

DAMNATION FESTIVAL
Line-up: Bolt Thrower, Cannibal Corpse, Saint Vitus, Raging Speedhorn. Leeds University Union November 11.

THE DEFILED
Nottingham Rescue Rooms November 24, Glasgow Cathouse 25, Stoke Sugarmill 26, London O2 Academy Islington 27, Brighton Audio 28, Leeds Cockpit 29, Manchester Academy III December 1, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 2, Bristol Thekla 3, Southampton Talking Heads 4. Support: Avatar.

DRAGONFORCE
Edinburgh Liquid Room September 17, Aberdeen Lemon Tree 18, Glasgow King Tut's 19, Belfast Limelight II 20, Dublin Whelan's 21, Carlisle Brickyard 23, Middlesbrough Empire 24, Manchester Deaf Institute 25, Stoke Sugarmill 26, Birmingham Temple 27, Brighton Haunt 30, Southampton Joiners October 1, Plymouth White Rabbit 2, Bridgend Hobo's 3, Bristol Thekla 4, Leeds Brudenell 7, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 8, Norwich Waterfront 10, London Bush Hall 11.

DRAGONFORCE / EPICA
London Kentish Town Forum December 6.

ELECTRIC WIZARD
Manchester Ritz October 23.

ESCAPE THE FATE
Norwich Waterfront October 7, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 27, Glasgow Garage 28, Manchester Academy II 29, London Camden Electric Ballroom 30. Support: Glamour Of The Kill, New Years Day.

FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS
London Dome November 1.

FEED THE RHINO
Norwich Waterfront October 16, London Camden Underworld 17, Bristol Exchange 18, Birmingham Asylum 19, Manchester Sound Control 20, Glasgow Ivory Blacks 21, Newcastle Think Tank? 22, Sheffield Corporation 23, Southampton Joiners 24. Support: Night Verses, Baby Godzilla.

FOO FIGHTERS
Jaguar Land Rover Invictus Games Closing Concert @ London Queen Elizabeth Park September 14.

FRAMING HANLEY
Belfast Oh Yeah October 24, Dublin Academy II 25, Leeds Cockpit 27, Glasgow King Tut's 29, Manchester Roadhouse 30, O2 Academy3 Birmingham 31, O2 Academy2 Newcastle November 2, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 3, London Camden Underworld 5, Brighton Bermuda 6.

FRANK TURNER & THE SLEEPING SOULS
Norwich UEA September 11, Leicester De Montfort Hall 12, Salisbury City Hall 13, St Albans Alban Arena 15, Cambridge Corn Exchange 16, Northampton Roadmender 18, Bath Pavilion 19, London On Blackheath Festival 14, Yeovil Westland 20, Cornwall Looe Music Festival 21, Yeovil Westlands 20, Exeter Lemon Grove 22, Hartlepool Borough Hall 24, Dunfermline Alhambra 25, Warrington Parr Hall 26, Hull City Hall 27, Wakefield Unity Works 28, Oxford Town Hall 30.

THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM
O2 Apollo Manchester November 17, London Alexandra Palace 19, Edinburgh Corn Exchange 21, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 22, O2 Academy Birmingham 23. Support: Deer Tick, Bayside.

HACKTIVIST
Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms November 14, Norwich Open 16, Hull Fruit 17, Sheffield Corporation 18, Preston 53 Degrees 19, Edinburgh Electric Circus 20, Aberdeen Tunnels 21, Glasgow King Tut's 22, Liverpool Kazimier 24, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 25, Swansea Sin City 26, Plymouth White Rabbit 28, Brighton Audio 29, Bristol Exchange December 2, Birmingham Institute Temple 3, Manchester Roadhouse 4, Leeds Cockpit 5, Southampton Joiners 7, Guildford Boileroom 8, Southend Chinnery's 9, London O2 Academy Islington 11. Support: Dead Harts, The One Hundred.

HEVY FESTIVAL
Line-up: 68, Brutality Will Prevail, The Catharsis, Deez Nuts, Devil Sold His Soul, Empire, Empress AD, The Hell, Iwrestledabearonce, Monuments, Nai Harvest, Oathbreaker, The One Hundred, Polar, Reel Big Fish, The Safety Fire, Stampin' Ground, TesseracT, Texas In July, Finch, Kvelertak, Structures, INVSN, Pay No Respect, Worthwhile, Dead Harts, Show Your Teeth, Terraform, The Vandals, Crime In Stereo, Capdown, The Ocean, Amenra, Feed The Rhino, Maybeshewill, Save Your Breath, Apologies, I Have None, Moose Blood, The Murderburgers, Silverstein, Anti-Flag, Three Trapped Tigers, Me Vs Hero, Heights, Heart In Hand, Acres. Kent Port Lympne Wild Animal Park August 15 – 16.

IN FLAMES
Manchester Ritz October 16, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 18. Support: Wovenwar, While She Sleeps.

JANE'S ADDICTION
London O2 Academy Brixton August 20, O2 Apollo Manchester 21.

JETTBLACK
Sheffield Corporation October 7, Manchester Roadhouse 8, Nottingham Rock City Basement 9, Chester Live Rooms 10, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 11, London O2 Academy Islington 12, Southampton Joiners 13. Support: The Howling.

KIDS IN GLASS HOUSES
Plymouth White Rabbit October 5, Exeter Phoenix 6, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 7, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 9, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 10, Manchester Gorilla 11, Sheffield Corporation 12, Leeds Cockpit 14, Aberdeen Tunnels 15, Glasgow Garage 16, Carlisle Brickyard 17, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 18, Birmingham Institute 20, Colchester Arts Centre 21, Norwich Waterfront 23, Bath Komeda 24, Gloucester Guildhall 25, O2 Academy2 Oxford 26, Reading Sub 89 27, London Camden KOKO 29, Cardiff Great Hall 31. Support: Save Your Breath.

KING 810
Bristol Thekla September 23, Glasgow Classic Grand 24, O2 Academy Birmingham 25, London O2 Academy Islington 26, Manchester Academy III 27.

KREATOR / ARCH ENEMY
Leamington Spa Assembly Rooms December 16, O2 Academy Bristol 17, London Kentish Town Forum 18, Manchester Academy 19, Dublin Academy 20, Glasgow QMU 21, O2 Academy Newcastle 22. Support: Sodom, Vader.

LA DISPUTE
London King's Cross Scala August 21. Support: Touché Amoré.

LINKIN PARK
Manchester Phones 4u Arena November 22, London O2 Arena 23 – 24. Support: Of Mice & Men.

LONELY THE BRAVE
London Camden Dingwalls September 4. Support: I Am Giant.

LONELY THE BRAVE / MARMOZETS
Manchester Deaf Institute October 1, Glasgow King Tut's 2, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 3, Cardiff CF10 4, Brighton Komedia 6, Tunbridge Wells Forum 8, London King's Cross Scala 10, Nottingham Rock City Basement 11, Sheffield Corporation 13, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 14, O2 Academy3 Birmingham 15, Norwich Open 16. Support: Allusondrugs.

MACMILLANFEST 2014
Line-up: Bleed From Within, Monuments, Adelphia, The Winter Hill Syndicate, Cabin Boy Jumped Ship, We Are Tyrants, Follow You Home, Anavae, Violet, Lock & Key, A World Defined, The Inside Is Live, The Great White, Spangle Corps, The Hype Theory, Falling Up Stairs, Vanity Box, Layby, Garden State, As December Falls, Jessica Matthews. Nottingham Rescue Rooms September 6.

THE MAINE
Brighton Haunt October 1, Glasgow Garage 3, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 4, Leeds Cockpit 5, Manchester Academy II 6, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 7, London Camden Electric Ballroom 9, Bristol Thekla 10, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 11. Support: Lydia, Nick Santino.

MASTODON
O2 Guildhall Southampton November 22, Manchester Academy 24, O2 Academy Newcastle 25, O2 Academy Glasgow 26, London O2 Academy Brixton 28, O2 Academy Birmingham 29, Nottingham Rock City December 1, O2 Academy Bristol 2. Support: Krokodil.

MERTHYR ROCK
Line-up: Taking Back Sunday, The Blackout, Reel Big Fish, Anti-Flag and more! Merthyr Tydfil Cyfarthfa Castle August 17.

MODERN BASEBALL
Derby Victoria Inn September 17, Cardiff Undertone 18, Birmingham Asylum 19, Dublin Fibber Magees 21, Belfast Voodoo 22, Leeds Cockpit 23, Glasgow Audio 24, Manchester Star & Garter 25, London Borderline 26 Kingston Fighting Cocks (matinee) 27, Kingston Fighting Cocks 27. Support: Spraynard, Losing Sleep, Chewing On Tinfoil (select dates).

MOTORHEAD
Manchester O2 Apollo November 4, Birmingham NIA 6, London SSE Arena Wembley 8. Support: The Damned, The Bosshoss.

NEVER SAY DIE! TOUR
Line-up: Terror, Comeback Kid, Stick To Your Guns, Obey The Brave, More Than A Thousand, No Bragging Rights, Capsize. Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall November 1, Leeds Cockpit 2, Dublin Village 3, London O2 Academy Islington 5.

NEW FOUND GLORY
Birmingham Institute November 15, O2 Academy Newcastle 16, O2 ABC Glasgow 17, Nottingham Rock City 18, O2 Academy Liverpool 20, Manchester Academy 21, O2 Academy Leeds 22, Cardiff University 23, O2 Academy Bristol 25, Portsmouth Pyramids 26, London Kentish Town Forum 28 – 29. Support: The Story So Far, State Champs, Candy Hearts, Only Rivals.

OPETH
O2 Academy Bristol October 10, London Camden Roundhouse 11, Nottingham Rock City 12, O2 ABC2 Glasgow 14, Manchester Academy 15, Birmingham Institute 16.

PARKWAY DRIVE
London Camden Roundhouse December 12, O2 Academy Newcastle 13, Glasgow Barrowland 14, Nottingham Rock City 15, O2 Academy Bristol 16, Manchester Academy 17. Support: Heaven Shall Burn, Northlane, Carnifex.

THE PRETTY RECKLESS
Nottingham Rock City November 17, O2 Academy Leeds 18, Manchester Academy 19, O2 Academy Glasgow 20, O2 Academy Oxford 22, O2 Academy Bristol 23, Birmingham Institute 24, London O2 Academy Brixton 26.

PRIMORDIAL
Dublin Academy November 28. Support: Hell, Dead Congregation, Malthusian.

PROTEST THE HERO
Southampton Mo'Club November 25, Manchester Academy II 26, Dublin Voodoo Lounge 28, Belfast Limelight II 29, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 30, Edinburgh Studio 24 December 1, London Camden KOKO 2. Support: The Faceless, The Contortionist.

PURSON
Reading Purple Turtle October 14, Southend Chinnery's 16, Swansea Static Bar 17, Northampton Roadmenders 18, Bolton Railway 20, Glasgow Audio 21, York Duchess 22, Nottingham Red Rooms 23, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 24, Aldershot West End Centre 25, Southampton Joiners 26, London Borderline 28.

QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE
Belfast Belsonic Festival @ Belfast Custom House Square August 20.

READING & LEEDS
Line-up: blink-182, Of Mice & Men, Arctic Monkeys, You Me At Six, Architects, Issues, Royal Blood, Queens Of The Stone Age, Paramore, Enter Shikari, Jimmy Eat World, Deaf Havana, Hacktivist, A Day To Remember, Sleeping With Sirens, Don Broco, Gerard Way, Neck Deep, Marmozets, Lower Than Atlantis, letlive., Crossfaith, Gnarwolves, Papa Roach, Young Guns, Tonight Alive, The Story So Far, Twin Atlantic, Mallory Knox, Lonely The Brave, Gogol Bordello, Brody Dalle, Möngöl Hörde, Band Of Skulls, Baby Godzilla and more! Reading Richfield Avenue and Leeds Bramham Park August 22 – 24.

RECKLESS LOVE
O2 Academy2 Newcastle December 4, Glasgow Cathouse 5, Nottingham Rock City 6, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 7, Manchester Academy III 9, Cardiff Globe 10, London Highbury Garage 11.

RISE AGAINST
O2 Academy Sheffield November 3, O2 Academy Glasgow 4, O2 Academy Birmingham 6, O2 Apollo Manchester 8, O2 Southampton Guildhall 9, London O2 Academy Brixton 10. Support: Pennywise, Emily's Army.

RIVAL SONS
Portsmouth Pyramid Centre December 8, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 9, London Kentish Town Forum 10, Manchester Ritz 11, Sheffield Leadmill 13, O2 ABC Glasgow 14, O2 Academy Newcastle 15, Norwich UEA 16.

SCOTT WEILAND
London Highbury Garage October 28.

SIKTH
Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms October 29, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 30, Plymouth White Rabbit 31, Bristol Fleece November 1, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 3, Leeds Cockpit 4, Glasgow Garage 5, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 7, Manchester Academy II 8, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 9, Norwich Waterfront 10, Brighton Concorde II 11, London Camden KOKO 12. Support: Heart Of A Coward, Idiom.

STEEL PANTHER
O2 Apollo Manchester March 6 – 7, 2015, O2 Academy Glasgow 9, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 12, London SSE Arena Wembley 14. Support: Skindred.

SUICIDE SILENCE
Birmingham Asylum November 14, Newcastle Riverside 15, Glasgow Cathouse 16, Manchester Academy II 17, Leeds Cockpit 18, Southampton Mo'Club 19, Cardiff Solus II 20, London Camden KOKO 21.

TONIGHT ALIVE
O2 Academy2 Oxford August 19, Edinburgh Liquid Rooms 21. Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms November 24, London Camden KOKO 25 – 26, Cardiff Solus 27, Birmingham Institute 28, Manchester Academy 29, Glasgow Garage 30. Support: The Summer Set, This Wild Life, Chunk, No! Captain Chunk.

TWIN ATLANTIC
Aberdeen Music Hall October 23, Glasgow Barrowland 24, O2 Academy Newcastle 27, Manchester Academy 28, O2 Academy Sheffield 29, Leeds Met University 30, Birmingham Institute November 1, Cardiff Uni Solus 2, London Camden Roundhouse 3, Southampton Guildhall 4, Cambridge Junction 6.

WE ARE THE OCEAN
Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms October 14, Bristol Fleece 15, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 16, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 18, Manchester Academy III 19, Leeds Cockpit 20, Edinburgh Liquid Room 21, London King's Cross Scala 23, Reading Bowery District 24. Support: Decade, Boy Jumps Ship.

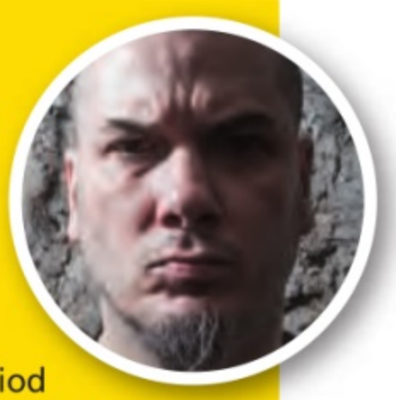
THE WORD ALIVE
York Fibbers October 19, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 20, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 21, Manchester Sound Control 22, Glasgow Cathouse 23, Norwich Epic Studios 24, Brighton Audio 25, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 26, London Camden Underworld 27, Southampton Joiners 28. Support: The Color Morale, Like Moths To Flames.

YOUNG GUNS
Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms August 19, Gloucester Guildhall 20. Support: Blitz Kids, Only Rivals.

MY FIRST GIG

AGNOSTIC FRONT (SORT OF), NEW ORLEANS, 1985

PHILIP H. ANSELMO, DOWN



"THE FIRST big gig I went to, when I was a mere skinny runt, was when Kiss played in 1979, and then shortly thereafter I saw Jethro Tull at a very young age, maybe at 13 or 14.

"But let me tell you about the gig that *really* changed my life at that period of time, and that I kind of consider to be the first gig that got me on this path I'm on now…

"I saw the mighty Motörhead when they came through to New Orleans in about 1985, and I was aged around 15. It was Motörhead, Motörhead, Motörhead for me at that point in my life, and I was super-excited to watch them – but, at that show, a band called Agnostic Front opened, and seeing them changed everything for me.

"They were a bunch of dudes getting up

"THEY GOT THE CROWD TOO AMPED UP!"

onstage with no image and no pretense about them at all. They were just focused on tearing through the venue! They totally blew my mind that day. Everyone was going absolutely mad for them, and I was one of those kids, too. It was insane.

"In fact, I remember Lemmy getting pissed off because everyone was so amped up [from seeing Agnostic Front play] that people were knocking his microphone while Motörhead were trying to play!

"What Agnostic Front have got is what I call an 'in the air' quality; when they play, everyone is in the goddamn air. It's that original hardcore feeling of sheer energy and not trying to be cool. A bunch of guys dressed how they feel like and simply throwing down. I love it, and I loved that gig so much."

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NEXT WEEK

ON SALE AUGUST 20.

READING! SET! GO!

READING LEEDS 2014 PREVIEW

THE **BIGGEST** AND **BEST BANDS** OF THE WEEKEND REVEAL ALL!

PARAMORE VS QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE

THE BATTLE BEGINS HERE!

BLINK-182

SAY GOODBYE TO THE DICK JOKES?!

GERARD WAY
MIGHT. BE. PLAYING. MCR. SONGS!

A DAY TO REMEMBER
A HOUSE PARTY IN A FIELD?

TONIGHT ALIVE
GETTING STARSTRUCK… BUT BY WHO?

PAPA ROACH
HAVING A FESTIVAL LOVEHATETRAGEDY!

YOU ME AT SIX
MAKING THE MAIN STAGE THEIR OWN!

WHILE SHE SLEEPS
LOZ' HEAD FOR HEIGHTS GETS PUT TO THE TEST!

MALLORY KNOX
LOSE THEIR DRUMMER!

ARCTIC MONKEYS
HEADLINING? NO BIG DEAL!

ARCHITECTS
TRYING TO MEET CHINO!

YOUNG GUNS
READY TO PLAY NEW SONGS!

DON BROCO
ON STALKING FRED DURST!

OF MICE & MEN
GO TO WAR!

ENTER SHIKARI
HOW THEY'RE GOING TO TOP THEIR LAST R&L SETS!

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS
THE HIGHEST VOICE IN ROCK SQUEAKS!

DEAF HAVANA
CAN JAMES VECK-GILODI STAY SOBER?!

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THE *ALL-NEW* ULTIMATE ROCKSTAR TEST

THIS WEEK: MATT SORUM

Former Guns N' Roses drummer. Hotel vandal. Flash-car buyer. Matt has done *everything*. Well, members of Guns have to pass the time somehow…

ON ROCK'N'ROLL...

WHAT'S THE BIGGEST BILL THAT YOU'VE EVER RUN UP IN A HOTEL?
"When I was in Guns N' Roses, we toured with Metallica. One night at the hotel, Lars [Ulrich] and Kirk [Hammett] decided, 'Hey, man, we'll go to your room…' The bill for the minibar and room service was $7,500! Oh, and there was the time I broke a $10,000 chandelier. I was in my room watching a movie, drinking Jägermeister, and I started swinging from this chandelier… and the whole thing came down on top of me!"

WHAT'S THE LONGEST YOU'VE EVER GONE WITHOUT SLEEPING?
"I once ordered cocaine for some of Guns, and I had it delivered to my hotel room. I started calling everybody and I couldn't get through, so I locked the door and did it all myself. I finally went out to the pool and said to Slash, 'Hey, man, where you guys been?' They were like, 'Where have *you* been?' I said, 'We just got off the plane a couple of hours ago!' And Slash looked at me and said, "Yeah… four days ago.'"

WHAT'S BEEN YOUR MOST EXPENSIVE IMPULSE PURCHASE?
"I once got off an airplane, and there was this Porsche sitting there, so I jumped in it. I started driving it around the tarmac. These guys ran up to me – luckily, I knew one of them. He was like, 'What the fuck are you doing, Sorum? That's my car!' So I said, 'Fuck you, it's my car now.' I called my business manager who gave him $50,000, cash, and I drove it home. And that's how I got my first Porsche."
WE ALL REMEMBER BUYING OUR FIRST ONE, MATE…

WORDS: SAM COARE **PHOTO:** ERIC HOBBS

ON YOUR OWN MUSIC...

WHAT'S THE FIRST LINE ON YOUR 2004 SOLO ALBUM, HOLLYWOOD ZEN?
"(*Sings*) '*I'm not that bad, at least I don't think so*'."
NOT BAD AT ALL. CORRECT, IN FACT

YOU DRUMMED ON THE THEME SONG FOR THE MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS MOVIE. WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THE BAND?
"Oh god, The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers Band?"
NOPE! IT WAS THE POWER RANGERS ORCHESTRA. FOR SHAME!

HOW MANY SHOWS IN HOW MANY DIFFERENT COUNTRIES DID YOU PLAY ON GUNS' MASSIVE USE YOUR ILLUSION WORLD TOUR?
"I don't even know. We went round the world about four times. I'd say 300 shows…"
194 GIGS IN 31 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. KEEP UP, MATT…

ON THE HYPOTHETICAL...

IF YOU WERE KING OF THE WORLD FOR A DAY, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
"I'd make it so everyone, for one day a week, had nothing else to do but play music. I'd give everyone Monday off, too, because Monday is not a good day. And I'd get rid of all circuses, and close all zoos, and let all the animals go back into the wild."

IF YOU WERE OFFERED TO GO ON A REALITY TV SHOW, WOULD YOU?
"Big Brother Get Me Out Of Here sounds kind of fun. Mikkey Dee from Motörhead did the Swedish version [of I'm A Celeb…]. That was how I got to play drums in Motörhead, because he was busy doing that. So yeah, I would. It'd cost them a million bucks, though!"

YOU'RE OFFERED EVERLASTING LIFE BUT YOU CAN NEVER PLAY MUSIC AGAIN. DO YOU TAKE IT?
"No. I don't want to live forever anyway, that would be weird. I want to live a little longer, 'cause my wife is quite a bit younger than me. I'll take 30 extra years for no music. I'll go sit in front of the fire, smoking a pipe with my dog."
SMOKING A PIPE? PROBABLY NOT THE KEY TO LONG LIFE…

SPIRITUAL HEADMELTER...

ARE WE ALONE IN THE UNIVERSE?
"No we aren't – there are other beings out there. I'm a believer in UFOs and aliens. How can you possibly think that we are the only living species in the entire universe? I mean, look at those crazy circular things they found in the middle of the UK, and the weird things in the fields. I love all that shit."
SO, ALIENS SHIT IN CIRCLES IN THE UK?

MATT SCORED 97%

If Matt hadn't bought $50,000 cars on a whim and smashed hotels on his own, we'd have scrubbed him from GN'R history. But this, people, is the way you act like a rockstar. With pride, extravagance, and without engaging that pesky guilt feeling. Well done, you maniac!

"ME AND METALLICA RAN UP A $7,500 MINIBAR BILL..."

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